

Supreme Court, U. S.

FILED

DEC 6 1978

MICHAEL REDAK, JR., CLERK

**In the Supreme Court of the
United States**

Term, 197

No. **78-907**

GERALD R. CAIN,

Petitioner

v.

JOSEPH MAZURKIEWICZ

and

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE
OF PENNSYLVANIA

and

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF PHILADELPHIA
COUNTY

Respondents

**PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO
THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT**

MORRIS PAUL BARAN

EUGENE H. CLARKE, JR.

Attorneys for Petitioner

600 Penn Square Building
Philadelphia Pa. 19107

Murrelle Printing Co., Law Printers, Box 100, Sayre, Pa. 18840

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
Opinions Below	2
Jurisdiction	2
Question Presented	2
Constitutional Provision Involved	3
Statement of the Case	4
Reasons for Granting the Writ	7
Conclusion	16
Appendices:	
A. Orders entered by the Court of Appeals ..	1a
B. Order of the District Court, incorporating the report and recommendation of the United States Magistrate	6a

TABLE OF CITATIONS

FEDERAL CASES:

Hamling v. United States, 418 U.S. 87 (1974) ...	13
Hankerson v. North Carolina, 432 U.S. 233 (1977)	14, 15
Jenkins v. Georgia, 418 U.S. 153 (1974)	13
Linkletter v. Walker, 381 U.S. 618 (1965)	13
Mackey v. United States, 401 U.S. 677 (1971) ..	9, 10, 14
Stovall v. Denno, 388 U.S. 293 (1967) ...	10, 11, 12, 13

United States v. Schooner Peggy, 5 U.S. (1 Cranch) 103 (1801)	13
United States ex rel. Cannon v. Johnson, 396 F. Supp. 1362 (E.D. Pa. 1975)	8, 10, 11, 15
United States ex rel. Cannon v. Johnson, 536 F.2d 1013 (3rd Cir. 1976)	5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14
United States ex rel. Matthews v. Johnson, Civil Action No. 73-159 (1973) (unreported decision)	4
United States ex rel. Matthews v. Johnson 503 F.2d 339 (3rd Cir. 1974)	5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15

PENNSYLVANIA CASES:

Commonwealth v. Cain, 471 Pa. 140, 369 A.2d 1234 (1977)	5, 8, 11, 13, 14
Commonwealth v. Jones, 457 Pa. 563, 319 A.2d 142 (1974)	7, 8, 10

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION:

United States Constitution, Amendment Fourteen, Section One	3
---	---

Petition

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Term, 197

No.

GERALD R. CAIN,

Petitioner

v.

JOSEPH MAZURKIEWICZ

and

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF
THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

and

DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF
PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

Respondents

**PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE
THIRD CIRCUIT**

The petitioner, Gerald R. Cain, respectfully prays that a writ of certiorari issue to review the judgment and opinion of the United States Court Appeals for the Third Circuit entered in the above entitled case on September 7, 1978.

OPINIONS BELOW

The unreported opinion of the District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, adopting and incorporating the Report and Recommendation of the United States Magistrate, is set out as Appendix B, p. 6a, *infra*.

JURISDICTION

The order of the Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit was entered on September 7, 1978. A petition for a rehearing en banc of the Court's decision was denied on September 28, 1978. This petition for certiorari was filed within ninety days of the order denying the rehearing. This court's jurisdiction is invoked under 28 U.S.C. §1254 (1).

QUESTION PRESENTED

Where, in a circuit court en banc decision holding unconstitutional a State practice giving trial courts unfettered discretion to decide whether to charge the jury on voluntary manslaughter absent evidence of provocation, three judges further hold that the decision should apply to cases on direct review in the State, and where a circuit court panel, as dicta in a subsequent collateral attack, holds that the decision will not apply to pending direct appeals, do the interests of fairness and justice require that the en banc decision apply to a direct appeal in the State?

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION INVOLVED

United States Constitution, Amendment Fourteen, Section One.

All persons, born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privilege or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

Gerald R. Cain, petitioner herein, was convicted in the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, Trial Division, Criminal Section, at Nos. 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, June Session, 1971, of first degree murder, aggravated robbery, burglary and conspiracy. The sentence imposed was life imprisonment.

After post-verdict motions for a new trial were denied, petitioner filed a direct appeal with the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, asserting as one of his several grounds for relief that he was denied due process and equal protection of the law when the trial court refused a specific request to charge the jury on voluntary manslaughter.

The brief and oral argument presented to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court on January 22, 1974, noted the Federal District Court decision in *United States of America ex rel. William Matthews v. Robert L. Johnson, Supt.*, Civil Action No. 73-159 (1973), which held that, under Pennsylvania practice, the absence of standards or guidelines gave the trial court unfettered discretion in murder trials to decide whether to charge the jury on voluntary manslaughter when there is no evidence to support such a verdict and, therefore, offended due process and entitled relator in that case to relief. During oral argument, petitioner in the instant case cited this decision and advised the court of the pendency of an appeal which had been argued in the Third Circuit Court of Appeals one week earlier. *United States of America ex rel. William Matthews v. Robert L.*

Johnson, 503 F.2d 339 (3rd Cir., 1974), cert. denied sub nom. *Cuyler v. Matthews*, 420 U.S. 952 (1975). [Hereinafter: *Matthews*.]

A rehearing of *Matthews* took place before the Third Circuit en banc on August 15, 1974; judgment was entered affirming the District Court's decision. In the opinion, Judges Aldisert, Rosenn and Weiss addressed the issue of retroactivity and held that *Matthews* should apply to cases on direct appeal. *Matthews*, supra.

On January 28, 1977, three years later, petitioner's conviction was affirmed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court by virtue of an evenly divided decision. *Commonwealth v. Cain*, 471 Pa. 140, 369 A.2d 1234 (1977) [hereinafter: *Cain*]. The opinion in support of affirmance cited *United States ex rel. Cannon v. Johnson*, 536 F.2d 1013 (3rd Cir. 1976), cert. denied, *Cannon et al. v. Johnson, Executive Director, Board of Probation and Parole*, 429 U.S. 928 (1976) [hereinafter: *Cannon*]. *Cannon*, which involved a collateral attack, was decided by a panel of three which held, by way of dicta, that *Matthews* would not be applicable to cases pending on direct review.

Petitioner filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania which was denied on January 11, 1978. However, the District Court, noting the inconsistency between the opinion of Judges Aldisert, Rosenn and Weiss in *Matthews* and the dicta of the panel in *Cannon*, found probable cause for appeal. App. B, pp. 6a-7a, infra.

Without oral argument and without opinion, a panel of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals summarily affirmed the District Court's denial of the petition for writ of habeas

Statement of the Case

corpus on September 7, 1978. App. A, pp. 3a-5a, *infra*.

On September 28, 1978, petitioner's request for a rehearing en banc was denied. App. A, pp. 1a-2a, *infra*.

Reasons for Granting Writ

REASONS FOR GRANTING THE WRIT

1. Consequences of Not Applying New Constitutional Principles to Cases on Direct Appeal

Petitioner was one of a series of defendants, who, on direct appeal to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, challenged the constitutionality of the practice which gave the trial judge absolute discretion to decide whether or not to charge the jury in a murder trial on voluntary manslaughter when no evidence of passion or provocation existed. A majority of the justices of that court had consistently declined to reach the constitutionality question and, despite strong dissent, the practice had been upheld.

In his brief and oral argument, petitioner advised the court that this practice had been held by the Federal District Court to violate due process and equal protection of the law. He also advised the court of the pendency of an appeal which had just been argued in the Third Circuit. *Matthews*, *supra*. Although so apprised, the Pennsylvania Court soon thereafter decided *Commonwealth v. Jones*, 457 Pa. 563, 319 A.2d 142 (1974) [hereinafter: *Jones*], which again, by virtue of an evenly divided decision, avoided the constitutionality issue and announced that, under the supervisory power of the court, henceforth, the trial judge must instruct the jury on voluntary manslaughter when requested.¹

¹ The court further held that, because Mr. Jones had been convicted of first degree rather than second degree murder, he had not been prejudiced and, therefore, his conviction was affirmed.

Shortly after *Jones*, the Third Circuit en banc held that the Pennsylvania practice offended due process. *Matthews*, supra. Three judges, addressing the retroactivity issue, held further that *Matthews* should apply to cases on direct appeal in the Pennsylvania courts.² *Id.* at 349.

Although petitioner's argument before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court was heard in January of 1974, *Jones* was decided in May of 1974, and *Matthews* in August of 1974, no opinion was rendered in petitioner's case until January of 1977. *Cain*, supra.

The District Court, in *United States ex rel. Cannon v. Johnson*, 396 F. Supp. 1362 (E.D. Pa. 1975) [hereinafter: *Dist. Cannon*], held that *Matthews* would not be given full retroactive effect. Recognizing that the on-direct-appeal issue was not squarely before it, the court limited its holding to collateral attacks. *Id.* at 1373. Nonetheless, on appeal, a panel of three judges of the Third Circuit, in a decision admittedly "broader than is essential for the instant appeals", further held that "*Matthews* is inapplicable to pending or future appeals from pre-*Matthews* murder verdicts." *Cannon*, supra at 1016-17.

Although noting the inconsistency between *Matthews* and *Cannon* and that, as to cases on direct appeal, *Cannon* was dicta, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, in an evenly divided decision, affirmed petitioner's conviction. *Cain*, supra. The opinion in support of affirmance accorded

² The court rejected the identical reasoning used by the Pennsylvania Court to affirm the conviction of *Jones* with the anomalous result that Mr. Matthews, whose conviction was already final in Pennsylvania, received the benefit of the new rule, while Mr. Jones, as a result of his direct appeal, did not.

Cannon greater weight, in part, because "it represents the Third Circuit Court's most recent expression on the subject." *Id.* at 160.

The events described and their timing serve as clear illustrations of exactly those concerns expressed by Mr. Justice Harlan in his separate opinion in *Mackey v. United States*, 401 U.S. 677, 28 L.Ed. 2d 404, 91 S.Ct. 1160 (1971) [hereinafter: *Mackey*].

Among the "additional significant untoward consequences" of not requiring that cases on direct review be decided in accord with newly enunciated constitutional rules is that courts are encouraged to avoid "responsibility for developing or interpreting the Constitution." *Id.* at 680. Here, a majority of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court exhibited a persistent disinclination to address the constitutionality of the Pennsylvania practice. Even after that issue was resolved in *Matthews*, the court chose to delay three more years before deciding the case at bar.

A second "untoward consequence" is the inconsistency that arises when, as between two defendants raising the same issue contemporaneously in two different tribunals, one is given the benefit of the new rule but the other is denied the benefit on the basis of a subsequent decision that the rule will operate prospectively only. See *Mackey*, supra at 680. Here, *Matthews* was argued before the Third Circuit just one week prior to petitioner's argument before the Pennsylvania Court. Yet, Mr. Matthews, whose conviction was final in Pennsylvania in 1971, received the benefit of the rule, while petitioner, still on direct appeal, was denied the benefit on the basis of the subsequent *Cannon* dicta.

A third "untoward consequence" of "[r]efusal to apply new constitutional rules to all cases arising on direct review" is the chilling effect on the defendant with limited resources who may be deterred from pursuing his constitutional rights because, although these rights may eventually be vindicated, he may not reap the benefit. *Mackey*, supra at 680.

2. Effect of the Use of Dicta

Petitioner's argument before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court predated the decisions in *Jones*, *Matthews* and *Cannon*. Since his appeal was grounded on the constitutionality question, retroactivity was not in issue at all at the time. Yet, the decision rendered by the Pennsylvania Court rested solely on that issue, which petitioner had no opportunity to argue.

In *Dist. Cannon*, the court utilized data supplied by the Commonwealth to apply the three-pronged test summarized in *Stovall v. Denno*, 388 U.S. 293, 87 S.Ct. 1967, 18 L.Ed. 2d 1199 (1967) [hereinafter: *Stovall*], which requires consideration of:

"(a) the purpose to be served by the new standards, (b) the extent of the reliance by law enforcement authorities on the old standards, and (c) the effect on the administration of justice of a retroactive application of the new standards."

Id. at 297.

The court, after concluding that the purpose of the *Matthews* rule is not to enhance truth-finding, made the

factual determination from the data that "the Commonwealth relied heavily on the prior rule" and "that retroactive application of the *Matthews* standard would have an adverse impact on the administration of justice."³ *Dist. Cannon*, supra at 1371. Mr. Cannon did not contest the data, viewing them as irrelevant to the theory of his case. *Id.* at 1373. The Third Circuit concurred with the *Stovall* criteria determinations in *Dist. Cannon* and, citing *Stovall* as the basis for further concluding that no distinction is warranted between collateral attacks and direct appeals, held that *Matthews* does not apply to cases on direct review. *Cannon*, supra at 1016-17.

Thus, the on-direct-review had never received adversarial treatment when the Pennsylvania Court decided *Cain*. The opinion in support of reversal noted:

"The (Cannon) panel's pronouncement on an issue not presented is troublesome, particularly since the precise issue was then pending before this court." *Cain*, supra at 165, fn. 22.

The opinion in support of affirmance, however, fully adopted the *Cannon* dicta and added the further gloss that the distinction between collateral attacks and direct appeals no longer has any "vitality" and, therefore, once full retroactive effect is denied, no consideration for direct appeals is constitutionally mandated.⁴ *Id.* at 163-4.

³ Even assuming the data to be valid, the inference drawn with respect to reliance on the old rule is arguable since the question arises as to what extent that reliance resulted from the continued reluctance of the Pennsylvania Court to address the constitutionality issue.

⁴ Since full retroactive effect invariably imposes a severe burden on the administration of justice, new rules which do not

Petitioner then sought relief in the District Court which denied relief on the grounds that it was "constrained" by the discussion in *Cannon*. App. B, pp. 6a-7a, *infra*. Nevertheless, noting the inconsistency between *Matthews* and the *Cannon* dicta, the court found probable cause for appeal. App. B, pp. 6a-7a, *infra*.

The Third Circuit panel assigned to petitioner's case dispensed with oral argument and entered a judgment order which listed petitioner's contentions followed by the one-sentence statement, "We find no error in the rejection of these grounds for habeas corpus relief." App. A, p. 4a, *infra*. The panel offered no reason or insight into its action. In rejecting, without opinion, petitioner's contention that *Matthews* should apply to him, it was not clear whether the panel affirmed the lower court's order on the basis that the dicta in *Cannon* was dispositive or on the basis of an independent consideration of the on-direct-appeal factual situation before it. Since the panel saw fit to neither expand nor clarify the *Cannon* holding, the more reasonable assumption is the former. The refusal of petitioner's request for a rehearing dispels any further doubt.

By allowing the *Cannon* dicta to stand unaltered in a direct appeal case, the Third Circuit has effectively adopted as the law of the Circuit the same position as that of the Pennsylvania Court, to wit: once full retroactivity is denied, no consideration is mandated for direct appeals. The necessary corollary is that all new constitutional rules will be given either full retroactive effect or only prospective effect.

enhance truth-finding will inevitably be denied full retroactive effect. Thus, the logical extension of the Pennsylvania view is that the *Stovall* criteria are no longer viable.

This Court has never held that retroactivity to cases on direct appeal will be allowed only if full retroactive effect is accorded. Thus, the Third Circuit's position that the *Cannon* dicta disposes of petitioner's case is contrary to the decisions of this Court. See: *Linkletter v. Walker*, 381 U.S. 618, 85 S.Ct. 1731, 14 L.Ed. 2d 601 (1965); *Hamling v. United States*, 418 U.S. 87, 94 S.Ct. 2887, 41 L.Ed. 2d 590 (1974); *Jenkins v. Georgia*, 418 U.S. 153, 94 S.Ct. 2750, 41 L.Ed. 2d 642 (1974).

3. Unfairness of Not Applying New Constitutional Rules to Cases on Direct Appeal

In addition to the unfairness inherent in applying dicta in a collateral attack case to a direct appeal in deciding the scope of retroactivity, the gravamen of petitioner's appeal to the Third Circuit centered on the injustice of not deciding cases on direct appeal in accord with the then known law.

The three justices of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court supporting reversal of *Cain's* conviction held that *Matthews* should apply to petitioner "in accord with the rule established 175 years ago in *United States v. Schooner Peggy*, 5 U.S. (1 Cranch) 103 (1801)". *Cain*, *supra* at 173 (Citations omitted.)

"This way individuals who are similarly situated are awarded the same treatment by the courts, and the court's duty to administer equal justice is preserved."
Id.

They urged further that although the *Stovall* criteria are appropriate for determining the scope of retroactivity for col-

lateral attacks, these criteria should not be the basis for dealing with the on-direct-appeal situation. *Id.* at 192. In support of this position, they cited Mr. Justice Harlan's approach in *Mackey*, *supra*. In discussing the rationale underlying judicial review, Mr. Justice Harlan in a separate opinion, stated:

"Simply fishing one case from the stream of appellate review, using it as a vehicle for pronouncing new constitutional standards, and then permitting a stream of similar cases to flow by unaffected by that new rule constitutes an indefensible departure from this model of judicial review." *Mackey*, *supra* at 679.

Mr. Justices Powell and Marshall, in separate opinions in *Hankerson v. North Carolina*, 432 U.S. 233, 53 L.Ed. 2d 306, 97 S.Ct. 2339 (1977), both urge the adoption of Mr. Justice Harlan's view that courts apply new constitutional rules to all cases pending on direct review. Mr. Justice Powell, noting the unfairness of not giving retroactive effect to cases on direct review, stated:

"(O)ne chance beneficiary—the lucky individual whose case was chosen as the occasion for announcing the new principle—enjoys retroactive application while others similarly situated have their claims adjudicated under the old doctrine." *Id.* at 247.

There are strong societal interests in preserving criminal convictions finalized before a new constitutional rule is announced. However, it is far more difficult to justify different treatment for two defendants in the same "stream", who raise the same issue contemporaneously on the basis of administrative concerns. A distinction between those constitutional rules which warrant complete retroactivity and those which do not is consistent with societal interests

in finality yet does not deny equal treatment under the law for similarly situated defendants. On the other hand, a distinction between similarly situated defendants, based largely on the degree of administrative burden imposed when the new rule does not enhance truth-finding, sacrifices equality for convenience.

Mr. Justice Marshall observed that the court's current approach to the problem of retroactivity has not effectively reduced the costs or resolved the anomalies. *Id.* at 245. Indeed, the anomalies which resulted here from a prospectivity ruling two years after *Matthews* could have been diminished by a policy of applying new rules to cases on direct appeal.

The costs of such a policy are not necessarily as extensive as imagined. Of the cases estimated by the Commonwealth in *Dist. Cannon* as possibly being affected by applying *Matthews* to direct appeals (some of which might warrant new trials anyway on other grounds), the cost of reversing these convictions would be offset by a lesser burden on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court which could promptly dispose of them by per curiam opinions.

With the rapid emergence of new constitutional doctrines of criminal procedure, a stated policy by this Court would decrease the need for extensive case-by-case litigation to determine the scope of retroactivity for each new rule.

Reasons for Granting Writ

CONCLUSION

It is, therefore, respectfully submitted that a writ of certiorari should issue to review the decision of the Third Circuit.

Respectfully submitted,
 MORRIS PAUL BARAN,
 EUGENE H. CLARKE, JR.,
Attorneys for Petitioner

Order, Court of Appeals, 9-28-78

APPENDIX A

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
For the Third Circuit

No. 78-1294

CAIN, GERALD R.,

Appellant

vs.

Mazurkiewicz, Joseph and The Attorney General of the
 State of Pennsylvania and District Attorney of
 Philadelphia

(D. C. Civil No. 77-2834)

SUR PETITION FOR REHEARING

Present: Seitz, *Chief Judge*, Aldisert, Adams,
 Rosenn, Hunter, Weis, Garth, *Circuit Judges*

The petition for rehearing filed by Appellant in the above entitled case having been submitted to the judges who participated in the decision of this court and to all the other available circuit judges of the circuit in regular active service, and no judge who concurred in the decision having asked for rehearing, and a majority of the

2a

Order, Court of Appeals 9-28-78

circuit judges of the circuit in regular active service not having voted for rehearing by the court in banc, the petition for rehearing is denied.

By the Court,
(s) John J. Gibbons
Judge

Dated: September 28, 1978

3a

Judgment Order, Court of Appeals

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

For the Third Circuit

No. 78-1294

CAIN, GERALD R.,

Appellant

vs.

Mazurkiewicz, Joseph and The Attorney General of the
State of Pennsylvania and District Attorney of
Philadelphia

(D. C. Civil No. 77-2834)

*On Appeal From the United States District Court for the
Eastern District of Pennsylvania*

Submitted Under Third Circuit Rule 12 (6)
September 5, 1978

Before Gibbons, Hunter and Garth, *Circuit Judges*

Eugene H. Clarke, Jr., Esquire, 805 One East Penn
Square Building, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107.

Morris Paul Baran, Esquire, 600 Penn Square Building,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107, Attorneys for Appellant.

Judgment Order, Court of Appeals

Paul S. Diamond, Assistant District Attorney, Michael F. Henry, Chief, Motions Division, Steven H. Goldblatt, Deputy District Attorney for Law, Edward G. Rendell, District Attorney, Centre Square West, Suite 2400, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102, Attorneys for Appellee.

JUDGMENT ORDER

Gerald R. Cain appeals from the denial of habeas corpus relief from his confinement pursuant to a Pennsylvania murder conviction. He contends:

- (1) That the ruling in *United States ex rel Matthews v. Johnson*, 503 F.2d 339 (3d Cir. 1974), cert. denied sub nom *Cuyler v. Matthews*, 420 U.S. 952 (1975) should have been applied to his case;
- (2) that the state court erred in excluding the testimony of Dr. James D. Nelson;
- (3) that the prosecutor made knowing use of false testimony in his state trial.

We find no error in the rejection of those grounds for habeas corpus relief.

It is therefore ORDERED and ADJUDGED that the judgment of the District Court is affirmed. Costs taxed against appellant.

By the Court,
 (s) John J. Gibbons
Circuit Judge

Judgment Order, Court of Appeals

Attest

(s) M. Elizabeth Ferguson
Acting Clerk

Dated: September 7, 1978

Certified as a true copy and issued in lieu of a formal mandate on October 6, 1978.

Test: (s) M. Elizabeth Ferguson
Chief Deputy Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

Copy

Order, District Court, 1-11-78

APPENDIX B

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR
THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Civil Action No. 77-2834

GERALD R. CAIN

v.

JOSEPH MAZURKIEWICZ and THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

ORDER

AND NOW this 11 day of January, 1978, after careful and independent consideration of relator's petition for a writ of habeas corpus and after review of the Report and Recommendation of the United States Magistrate, IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The Report and Recommendation is approved and adopted.
2. The petition for writ of habeas corpus is DENIED without an evidentiary hearing.
3. There is probable cause for appeal. This court is constrained by the Third Circuit Court of Appeals'

Order, District Court, 1-11-78

discussion in *United States ex rel. Cannon v. Johnson*, 503 F.2d 1013, 1015-7 (3d Cir. 1976), to hold that *United States ex rel. Matthews v. Johnson*, 503 F.2d 339 (3d Cir. 1974) (en banc), cert. denied, 402 U.S. 952 (1975), should not apply retroactively to cases pending on appeal when *Matthews* was decided. The tests employed by the Court of Appeals in deciding the retroactivity issue in *Cannon* have recently been affirmed in *Hankerson v. North Carolina*, U.S. , 53 L.Ed. 2d 315-316 (1977). The court notes, however, that the Court of Appeals decision by way of dicta in *Cannon* is inconsistent with the opinion of Judges Aldisert, Rosenn, and Weis in *Matthews*. Cf. Judge Weis' concurring opinion in *Cannon*, 536 F.2d at 1017.

By the Court:

(s) Edward N. Cahn
Edward N. Cahn,
J.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR
THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Civil Action No. 77-2834

GERALD R. CAIN

v.

JOSEPH MAZURKIEWICZ, Superintendent

and

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF
PENNSYLVANIA

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

PETER B. SCUDERI, UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE,
December 1977:

Gerald Cain, relator, has filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus stemming from his March 30, 1972 conviction. Cain was tried on charges of murder, aggravated robbery, burglary, conspiracy, and narcotics offenses arising out of an aborted narcotics sale to the deceased. The jury returned a verdict of guilty of first degree murder.¹

¹ *Commonwealth v. Gerald R. Cain*, June Sessions 1971, Numbers 2179-2182, February Sessions 1972, Number 1813 in the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, First Judicial District of Pennsylvania.

Post-trial motions were argued and denied on November 10, 1972.

The sentence imposed by the trial court was life imprisonment.

Relator attacked the conviction by way of direct appeal to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Being equally divided, the Court affirmed the judgment of sentence on January 28, 1977. *Commonwealth v. Cain*, 369 A.2d 1234 (1977).

In his present petition for federal habeas corpus relief, relator alleges the following grounds:

(1) Denial of equal protection for failure of the trial court to charge the jury on voluntary manslaughter after relator's attorney requested such a charge;

(2) Denial of due process in the trial court's failure to permit an expert to testify as to the effects of narcotic drugs; and

(3) Conviction obtained by the unconstitutional failure of the prosecution to disclose to the defense evidence favorable to defendant while permitting testimony that was false in material respects.

Relator is presently in custody in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania.

Each of the above contentions was raised in the State process. Therefore, relator has fulfilled the requirement of exhaustion of state remedies under 28 U.S.C. 2254 (b).

Because each of these contentions has been thoroughly reviewed during the trial and the trial record is adequate for the purposes of this petition, an evidentiary hearing is not necessary.

DISCUSSION

I. *The Trial Court's Denial of Requested Charge on Voluntary Manslaughter*²

Following is a chronology of dates and events necessary to evaluate petitioner's position with respect to his first habeas corpus ground.

On May 26, 1971, relator was arrested and charged with murder, aggravated robbery, burglary, conspiracy, and narcotics offenses.

In the June 1971 trial, the defense submitted to the Trial Judge the following points for charge:

49. Under an indictment for murder, you may return a verdict of voluntary manslaughter.

51. An unlawful killing without malice is manslaughter. If there is a specific intent to kill but

² Respondent charges (p. 3 of his brief) that relator failed to meet the exhaustion requirement as per this ground. It is alleged that before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court relator challenged the *arbitrariness* of the trial judge's decision on whether to charge on voluntary manslaughter, whereas relator *now* bases his claim on the retroactivity of the *Matthews* ruling, *infra.*, and denial of equal protection. Clearly, however, the issues from relator's standpoint are the same. The ground for seeking the writ of habeas corpus is the denial of equal protection for failure of the trial court to charge on voluntary manslaughter. Further, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court did confront the issue of *Matthews'* retroactivity (see discussion, *infra.*). See *Picard v. Connor*, 404 U.S. 270, 275 (1971); *Moore v. DeYoung*, 515 F.2d 437, 445 (3d Cir. 1975); *United States ex rel. Geisler v. Walters*, 510 F.2d 887, 892 (3d Cir. 1975); *United States ex rel. Johnson v. Johnson*, 531 F.2d 169 (3d Cir. 1976).

malice is negated by passion and hot blood, it is voluntary manslaughter. If there is no such specific intent to kill and no malice, it is involuntary manslaughter.

53. The four possible verdicts in this case on the murder indictment are:

- (a) Guilty of murder in the first degree;
- (b) guilty of murder in the second degree;
- (c) guilty of voluntary manslaughter;
- (d) not guilty.

All of these requested points were refused.

On appeal before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, Cain argued that he had been denied equal protection of the law by the Trial Judge's failure to charge on manslaughter as requested. Defense counsel cited the April 4, 1973 case of *United States of America ex rel. William Matthews v. Robert L. Johnson, Supt.*, Civil Action No. 73-159, in which District Court Judge Morgan Davis approved a report and recommendation that relator in a habeas corpus petition was entitled to relief where a state trial judge refused to charge on the issue of manslaughter in a murder case.

On January 15, 1974, the *Matthews* case was heard in the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

On January 22, 1974, relator Cain advised the Pennsylvania Supreme Court of the pendency of the *Matthews* appeal.

A rehearing of the *Matthews* case took place before the Third Circuit en banc on May 15, 1974. On August

15, 1974, the Court affirmed the April 1973 judgment of the District Court. *United States ex rel. Matthews v. Johnson*, 503 F.2d 339 (3d Cir. 1974), *cert. denied* 420 U.S. 952 (1975). The Circuit Court held that, where, under Pennsylvania law, the jury had the power and prerogative to return a verdict of voluntary manslaughter in any murder prosecution, even where there was no evidence of provocation or passion which would require instruction on voluntary manslaughter, and where there were no legal standards to guide the judge in determining whether to submit a voluntary manslaughter instruction in the absence of such evidence, due process was denied in refusing a request for a voluntary manslaughter instruction.

Relator Cain argues that this ruling should be retroactively applied to his case.

In the *Matthews* case itself, the issue of retroactivity was not resolved with finality. Three judges in the en banc decision expressed the view that *full* retroactivity should *not* apply but that, where the trial was over and on appeal in the Pennsylvania courts at the time of the *Matthews* decision, then the new rule should apply. The majority of the *Matthews* court, however, was silent on the question of retroactivity.

On June 12, 1975, District Court Judge Becker of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania confronted the issue of the retroactivity of the Third Circuit's *Matthews* opinion. *United States ex rel. Cannon v. Johnson*, 396 F. Supp. 1362 (E.D. Pa. 1975). Basing his decision on the Supreme Court's guidelines for resolving issues of retroactivity of newly mandated constitutional standards for

criminal procedure,³ Judge Becker concluded that the rule announced in *Matthews* ought not be accorded full retroactivity. The Judge limited his retroactivity holding to habeas corpus cases (as that presented before him) since the *Cannon* case "does not squarely raise the question of the applicability of *Matthews* to direct appeals before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court." 396 F. Supp. at 1373.⁴

Subsequently, in the consolidated appeals *United States ex rel. Cannon v. Johnson* and *United States ex rel. White v. Johnson*, 536 F.2d 1013 (1976), *cert. denied*, *Cannon et al. v. Johnson, Executive Director, Board of Probation and Parole*, 429 U.S. 928 (1976), a panel of three judges of the Third Circuit confronted the question of the retroactive effect to be accorded its en banc holding in *Matthews*.

Concurring in Judge Becker's analysis and application of the test for retroactivity, the three Circuit Court judges affirmed the denial of relief below and held that the decision in *Matthews* would not be applied retroactively in any respect either in habeas corpus review or

³ The Supreme Court has called for the consideration of three criteria in making such determinations: "(a) the purpose to be served by the new standards, (b) the extent of the reliance by law enforcement authorities on the old standards, and (c) the effect on the administration of justice of a retroactive application of the new standards." *Stovall v. Denno*, 388 U.S. 293, 297 (1967); *Linkletter v. Walker*, 381 U.S. 618 (1965).

⁴ The petitioner Cannon was convicted of first degree murder on June 25, 1970, and his conviction was affirmed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in 1973. Thus on direct appeal, Cannon, unlike Cain, did not yet have the benefit of the 1974 *Matthews* ruling.

on pending or future direct appeals from pre-*Matthews* murder verdicts. The Court held that due process was not violated where a request for a voluntary manslaughter instruction was denied.

By virtue of this holding, it must be concluded that Cain cannot avail himself of the *Matthews* ruling, since his trial predated the issuance of that ruling.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court was equally divided on Cain's appeal, three justices affirming, three dissenting. The essence of the two opinions supporting affirmance was that the *Matthews* ruling did not have to be applied to cases on direct appeal. In his opinion for reversal, Justice Roberts, citing numerous Supreme Court cases, argued that:

[o]n direct appeal a change in the law should be applied by the reviewing court even though the trial court may have acted in consonance with the state of the law at the time of its ruling. This way individuals who are similarly situated are awarded the same treatment by the courts, and the court's duty to administer equal justice is preserved.

369 A.2d at 1251

He challenged the appropriateness of the three-fold retroactivity test in determining the applicability of new rules to cases not yet finalized and expressed concern that some defendants were being denied the benefit of the new rule, bearing the burden of what is now recognized as an unjust rule.

Cain urges that Justice Roberts' argument is the correct one, that the ruling in the Third Circuit Court in *Matthews* is applicable to his case.

Although Justice Roberts' opinion appeals to any consideration of justice and equality and although in the *Matthews* case itself the newly enunciated rule was applied to the relator in that case, we are bound by the most recent word of the Third Circuit on this issue as expressed in *Cannon*. That word is, that the *Matthews* requirement that a request for a voluntary manslaughter instruction should always be granted, is not to be retroactively applied to any pre-*Matthews* verdicts.

We note, however, that the Third Circuit Court's decision in *Cannon* was by a panel of three and that the holding with respect to direct appeals is broader than was essential for the disposition of that case. The Court was faced with the habeas corpus appeals of two petitioners, each convicted by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for first degree murder. Petitioner Cannon was convicted in 1970 and his conviction was affirmed in 1973; petitioner White was convicted in 1968 and his conviction was affirmed in 1971. Thus in neither of these two cases did the Pennsylvania Supreme Court have the benefit of the 1974 *Matthews* ruling.

In Cain's case, however, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court did have the benefit of *Matthews*.

Thus, when the Circuit Court decided the issue of *Matthews*' retroactivity on direct appeals, that issue was not squarely before them on the facts since relators Cannon and White had already concluded their direct appeals.

In the case sub judice, it is apparent that the Pennsylvania Supreme Court was awaiting a decision from the Circuit Court on *Cannon* before deciding the direct ap-

Report of U. S. Magistrate

peal of Cain. With the Cannon opinion before it the Supreme Court still divided evenly on the *Cain* case. Since the Circuit Court did not have the *Cain* factual situation before it when it decided *Cannon*, it is felt that relator should have that opportunity to present his case to the Circuit. Therefore, I would recommend that the petition for the writ be denied but that probable cause for appeal be certified.

II. *Trial Court's Refusal To Permit Expert Testimony*

The evidence adduced at trial reveals that Charles Green and the decedent, Glen Edwards, both college students in Ohio, came to Philadelphia on May 22, 1971, to purchase marijuana. The men came in contact with the relator, Gerald Cain, who offered to procure some marijuana for them. Cain entered into a plan with others to lure Edwards from his hotel room to a vacant house, on the pretense of consummating the sale, in order to rob him. On May 24, 1971, in the course of the robbery and in the presence of Gerald Cain, Edwards was fatally shot by Calvin Williams, one of the conspirators. The conspirators shared in the proceeds of the robbery.

The victim's body was discovered on May 26, 1971. After his arrest, Cain made oral admissions and gave a formal statement of the events surrounding the felony.

Calvin Williams, the actual shooter, was arrested on July 9, 1971.

At Cain's trial, the Commonwealth called Calvin Williams as a witness. Williams testified that there was a conspiracy between himself, Gerald Cain, and others to rob the deceased, that they carried out the plan, and

Report of U. S. Magistrate

that in the course of the robbery and in the presence of relator, the victim was fatally shot. (N.T. 928-983).

Mr. Williams also testified that he was "high at the time" from the use of the drug methadrine. (N.T. 936). On cross-examination he testified that he was a heroin addict in May of 1971, that he used twelve to fifteen bags a day, and that on the day of the killing he was "high". (N.T. 1090-1093).

Williams further testified that on July 9, 1971, approximately one hour before being taken into custody, he had consumed one and one-half tablets of L.S.D. When he was questioned by the detectives on that day, and when his signed statement was taken, he was under the influence of the drug. (N.T. 988-1007).

On redirect, Williams testified that at present he was *not* under the influence of any drug and that he was testifying to the events of May 24, 1971, from memory. (N.T. 1112).

After the conclusion of the Commonwealth's case, the defense announced its intention to call Dr. James D. Nelson as an expert witness. (N.T. 1333-1347). Dr. Nelson, a psychiatrist, had experience with the treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts and was instrumental in the launching of the Methadone Program. In the Judge's chambers, the defense explained that Dr. Nelson would testify to the effects of L.S.D. in inhibiting the user's ability to recall past occurrences and to determine whether the recollection was accurate or merely a drug-induced fantasy. The intention was to impeach the credibility of Calvin Williams by showing that as a result of the ingestion of L.S.D. shortly before questioning

in custody on July 9, 1971, Williams would have been unable to recall or relate the events surrounding the murder.

The Commonwealth objected to the testimony of Dr. Nelson, challenging the doctor's credentials and expertise, protesting that he had never examined Calvin Williams, and asserting that this witness' testimony at trial was an accurate recollection of the events of May 24, 1971, and that it was too late to challenge the competency of a witness who has already testified. (N.T. 1334-1337).

The Trial Judge sustained the objection and refused to allow the testimony. He reasoned that what was relevant was Williams' state of mind when he was on the witness stand—where he indicated he was not under the influence of drugs—and not his state of mind when he made his post-arrest statement to the police. The Judge was satisfied that Williams was testifying from his present clear and independent recollection, and not from the statement made to the police. (N.T. 1346, 1347, 1350).

On appeal, the divided Pennsylvania Supreme Court was confronted with relator's claim of denial of due process of law. Only Justice Eagen, in his opinion supporting affirmance of Cain's conviction, addressed the issue. Justice Eagen agreed with the Trial Judge's ruling that the expert testimony would be irrelevant, since at the trial itself witness Williams was not under the influence of drugs and was able to remember and testify to the events of May 24, 1971. *Commonwealth v. Cain*, 369 A.2d 1234, 1238 (1977).

Relator contends that the Trial Judge's determination that Calvin Williams clearly remembered what oc-

curred was an arbitrary determination. He maintains that the psychiatrist should have been permitted to give answers to hypothetical questions adduced from the facts of the confessor-slayer's ingestion of drugs on the day of the incident and at the time of his arrest and statement to the police. Relator protests that the expert should have been allowed to testify to whether or not a person in Williams' drug-induced condition would be able to remember, perceive, and narrate.

While it is true, as relator asserts, that expert testimony has long been sanctioned for the purpose of attacking the credibility of a witness by showing the effect of drug use on memory, perception and narrative powers, the stated purpose of Dr. Nelson's testimony was to attack Williams' ability to give an accurate statement to the police on July 9, 1971. The offer of proof made by the defense at trial did *not* include a purpose to challenge the witness' *present* ability to testify to the events of May 24, 1971. (N.T. 1357).

As the Trial Judge reasoned, testimony affecting the credibility of the statement made to the police was irrelevant to the witness' present ability to testify. The judge heard lengthy argument on this issue. His evidentiary ruling was not an abuse of discretion.

III. *Failure of the Prosecution to Disclose Evidence Favorable to Defendant*

Relator contends that he was denied due process of law when a crucial prosecution witness was permitted to testify although the District Attorney knew, by virtue of a police memorandum in his possession prior to trial, that such testimony was false.

Report of U. S. Magistrate

Debra Weintraub was called by the Commonwealth and testified to Cain's part in a plan to rob the victim and scare him with a gun. The events which led to Miss Weintraub's testimony are as follows.

Following his arrest on May 26, 1971, relator mentioned in a statement that a white girl named Debbie had been in a car with one Lynn Williams on the night of the killing. Cain also mentioned her in his trial testimony. The police were unable to locate Debbie until the time of trial. She was finally located by the District Attorney's office, at which time a statement was taken. (N.T. Post-Trial Motions 107-110).

Miss Weintraub testified that on the day of Glen Edward's death, she went to the Marriott Hotel with her boyfriend, Lynn Williams, in his automobile. Williams wanted to "pick up some money" (N.T. 1691). When they arrived at the Marriott, Williams got out of the car and returned with "Gerry", whom Debbie identified in court as the relator, Gerald Cain. (N.T. 1692). The two men then left the vehicle and returned with three other men. They all entered the car, in which Debbie was still sitting. Miss Weintraub related that a conversation ensued in which the men spoke of "holding somebody up." (N.T. 1694). The plan was to get "\$500 plus grass" from someone. Debbie was told to pose as Cain's girlfriend, knock on the door of a hotel room, and remain quiet while Cain did the talking. (N.T. 1695). There was also a discussion about a pistol. Miss Weintraub saw the pistol being removed from the car's glove compartment, handed by Lynn Williams to Cain, and placed by Cain in his trousers. (N.T. 1696-1697). The plan was to frighten Glen Edwards in his motel room and

Report of U. S. Magistrate

rob him of the money he had to purchase the marijuana. (N.T. 1698). When the group entered the Marriott, Miss Weintraub escaped and left the building. (N.T. 1700-1701). She ran into a police officer and "told him I was scared and that there was going to be some shooting." Miss Weintraub and the officer went into the Marriott lobby, where a taxi was called for her. (N.T. 1702, 1797).

As developed by other testimony, the victim was lured from the Marriott to a vacant house where he was shot and killed and robbed.

Miss Weintraub's testimony substantially contradicted that of the relator as to the activities of each of them on the night in question.

At trial, the prosecution had informed the defense of its intention to introduce Miss Weintraub's proposed testimony. Defense counsel objected that it had no prior notice she would be called, although he did interview the witness prior to her testimony and did receive a copy of her statement taken by the Assistant District Attorney.

At the time Miss Weintraub testified, the Assistant District Attorney had in her possession a statement of the Lower Merion Police Department prepared by the officer who encountered the witness after she ran out of the Marriott.⁵ The incident report states:

While on routine patrol, I observed a girl running south on Presidential Boulevard toward Monument Road.

⁵ This report was produced in a proceeding involving Lynn Williams following Cain's trial. The officer did not testify at Cain's trial.

Report of U. S. Magistrate

The victim stated she was going to a party at the Marriott Motor Lodge with Lynn Willens [sic], a boyfriend of the victim. She went to a room and observed six men. The girl got excited and ran out of the Marriott.

Miss Weintraub was confused and admitted to having a nervous disorder.

Communications contacted Curtis Macmillan of 4933 Walnut Street, Phila. Mr. Macmillan stated he would reimburse the United Cab Co. for the victim's transportation to his address. Victim was transported by United Cab Co.

Cain's counsel later received a copy of this incident report. Relator contends, as he did on his motion for a new trial, that Debbie's trial testimony was false because of its inconsistency with the police report, and that the district attorney knew of its falsity and was guilty of suppressing exculpatory evidence in failing to provide the court and the defense with a copy of the report at Cain's trial.

Relator points out that the suppressed police report indicated Miss Weintraub had been with one person, Lynn Williams, and that nothing is said about a robbery, a gun, or shooting, although Miss Weintraub testified under oath that she told the police officer of a possible shooting.

In *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83, 87 (1963), the Supreme Court held that "the suppression by the prosecution of evidence favorable to an accused upon request violates due process where the evidence is material either to guilt or to punishment, irrespective of the good faith or bad faith of the prosecution."

Report of U. S. Magistrate

Relator argues that evidence which may be useful to impeach a witness is material to the guilt of an accused and may be the subject of prejudicial suppression violative of due process. *Coleman v. Maxwell*, 273 F. Supp 275 (D.C. Ohio, 1967), *aff'd* 399 F.2d 662 (6th Cir. 1967), *cert. denied* 393 U.S. 1058 (1968). He maintains that serious doubt exists as to witness Weintraub's credibility which is sufficient to vitiate the conviction.

Relator asserts that the Commonwealth deliberately breached its affirmative duty to disclose the contents of the police report of the trial court. The existence of the report, he maintains, provides material which could have been helpful for cross-examination and which could have led to further evidence helpful to the defense. This knowing use of false testimony and the suppression of contradictory evidence violated Cain's right to a fair trial.

The problem with relator's arguments is that nothing in the record warrants a conclusion that Miss Weintraub's trial testimony was false or inconsistent with what she told the police officer, or that the police report was exculpatory.

Miss Weintraub's trial testimony was more extensive and detailed than the report prepared by the police officer. It does not follow, however, that the two were inconsistent. The incident report was not a comprehensive summary of the events of the night of the crime, but was based on a brief conversation with a person in a very agitated state. Further, it contained no exculpatory information.

Relator's assertion that the alleged discrepancy indicates deliberate concealment of evidence favorable to him is without merit.

Report of U. S. Magistrate

A copy of Miss Weintraub's in-custody statement to the District Attorney was given to Cain's counsel, and the defense did have an opportunity to interview her prior to her testimony. Further, as respondent points out after Debbie's testimony in which the circumstances of her encounter with the police officer were explored, the lunch intervened and trial continued for several days after the conclusion of her testimony. The defense did not seize on the opportunity to subpoena the police officer who interviewed Miss Weintraub or to ascertain if there was a public record of his report at police headquarters.

On Cain's appeal to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, Justice Eagen in his affirming opinion points out that, even if the defense had known about the police summary at the time of trial, it would have been unable to use it. 369 A.2d at 1241.

Although under Pennsylvania law relevant pretrial statements of witnesses in the Commonwealth's possession must, upon request, be made available to the accused during trial, *Commonwealth v. Kontos*, 442 Pa. 343; 276 A.2d 830 (1971), the case of *Commonwealth v. Morris*, 444 Pa. 364; 281 A.2d 851 (1971) suggests that summaries of statements can be used to impeach a witness only if the report is an accurate transcription of the witness' actual statement or was adopted or approved by the witness. Noting the relevance of the federally and state recognized distinction between a report that is a verbatim, signed, or adopted recordation of a witness' statement and a summary of what another undertook him to say, Justice Eagen explained the rationale to be:

[I]t is unfair to allow the defense to use statements to impeach a witness which cannot fairly be

*Report of U. S. Magistrate
Recommendation*

said to be the witness' own rather than the product of the investigator's selection, interpretation, and recollection.

369 A.2d at 1241

There is no evidence that Debbie read, signed, or adopted the police summary or that it was a verbatim report of her statements to the officer. Under Pennsylvania law, therefore, it is doubtful that the defense was entitled to the police summary for impeachment purposes.

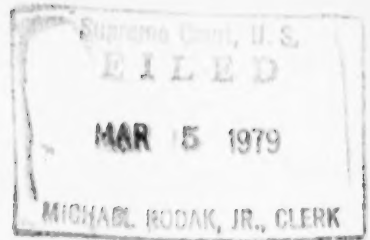
In sum, relator's due process rights were not violated. The allegations that Miss Weintraub's testimony was false and that the district attorney attempted to conceal from the defense evidence favorable to them are not supported by the record.

Accordingly, this United States Magistrate makes the following:

RECOMMENDATION

Now, this 15th day of December, 1977, it is **RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDED** that the petition for a writ of habeas corpus be denied without an evidentiary hearing. There is probable cause for appeal.

(s) Peter B. Scuderi
Peter B. Scuderi
United States Magistrate



IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES
TERM, 1978
NO. 78-907

GERALD R. CAIN,
PETITIONER
v.
JOSEPH MAZURKIEWICZ
AND
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA
AND
DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY,
RESPONDENTS

BRIEF IN OPPOSITION TO PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI
TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT

STEVEN H. GOLDBLATT
DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOR LAW
PAUL S. DIAMOND
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY
MICHAEL F. HENRY
CHIEF, MOTIONS DIVISION
EDWARD G. RENDELL
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

2400 CENTRE SQUARE WEST
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19102

INDEX

	<u>PAGE</u>
COUNTER-STATEMENT OF THE ISSUES PRESENTED	1
COUNTER-STATEMENT OF THE CASE	1-3
REASONS FOR DENYING THE WRIT	
1. PETITIONER WAS NOT ENTITLED, AS A MATTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL LAW, TO A JURY CHARGE ON VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER ABSENT EVIDENCE OF PROVOCATION.	3-11
2. THE THIRD CIRCUIT PROPERLY DENIED PETITIONER RETROACTIVE BENEFIT OF A NEW CONSTITUTIONAL HOLDING AS THAT HOLDING DID NOT AFFECT THE TRUTH DETERMINING PROCESS IN PETITIONER'S MURDER TRIAL.	11-19
CONCLUSION	20

TABLE OF CITATIONS

	<u>PAGE</u>
<u>FEDERAL CASES</u>	
ADAMS V. ILLINOIS, 405 U.S. 278 (1972)	16
ALDRIDGE V. UNITED STATES, 283 U.S. 308 (1931)	7
ALMEIDA-SANCHEZ V. UNITED STATES, 413 U.S. 266 (1973)	16
ARSENAULT V. MASSACHUSETTS, 393 U.S. 5 (1963)	15-16
BARBER V. PAGE, 390 U.S. 719 (1968)	15
BELTON V. UNITED STATES, 382 F.2d 150 (D.C. Cir. 1967)	10,14
BERGER V. CALIFORNIA, 383 U.S. 314 (1968)	15
BERRA V. UNITED STATES, 351 U.S. 131 (1956)	10,14
BROWN V. UNITED STATES, 422 U.S. 916 (1975)	13
BRUTON V. UNITED STATES, 391 U.S. 123 (1968)	16
CHAPMAN V. CALIFORNIA, 386 U.S. 18 (1967)	18
CHIMEL V. CALIFORNIA, 395 U.S. 752 (1969)	17
COLEMAN V. ALABAMA, 399 U.S. 1 (1970)	16
DANIEL V. LOUISIANA, 419 U.S. 31 (1975)	11,16
DESIST V. UNITED STATES, 394 U.S. 244 (1969)	12-13,1
DESTEFANO V. WOODS, 322 U.S. 631 (1968)	17
DOUGHTY V. MAXWELL, 376 U.S. 202 (1964)	16
DOUGLAS V. CALIFORNIA, 372 U.S. 353 (1963)	16
DRISCOLL V. UNITED STATES, 536 F.2d 324 (1st Cir. 1966)	10,14
DUNCAN V. LOUISIANA, 391 U.S. 145 (1968)	17
ESCOBEDO V. ILLINOIS, 378 U.S. 478 (1964)	17
FULLER V. ALASKA, 393 U.S. 80 (1968)	17

	<u>PAGE</u>
GIACCIO V. PENNSYLVANIA, 382 U.S. 399 (1966)	7
GIDEON V. WAINRIGHT, 372 U.S. 335 (1963)	16
GOSA V. MAYDEN, 413 U.S. 665 (1973)	16
GRIFFIN V. CALIFORNIA, 380 U.S. 609 (1965)	17
GROSSO V. UNITED STATES, 390 U.S. 62 (1968)	15
HALLIDAY V. UNITED STATES, 394 U.S. 831 (1969)	17
HAMLING V. UNITED STATES, 418 U.S. 87 (1974)	16
HANKERSON V. NORTH CAROLINA, 432 U.S. 233 (1977)	12,15
HOLT V. BLACK, 550 F.2d 1061 (6TH CIR. 1977)	17
IN RE WINSHIP, 397 U.S. 358 (1970)	15
IVAN V. CITY OF NEW YORK, 407 U.S. 203 (1972)	15
JACKSON V. JUSTICES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS, 549 F.2d 215 (1st CIR. 1977)	18
JOHNSON V. NEW JERSEY, 384 U.S. 719 (1966)	17
KATZ V. UNITED STATES, 389 U.S. 347 (1967)	17
KEEBLE V. UNITED STATES, 412 U.S. 205 (1973)	10,14
KER V. STATE OF CALIFORNIA, 374 U.S. 23 (1963)	6
LEE V. FLORIDA, 392 U.S. 378 (1968)	17
LINKLETTER V. WALKER, 381 U.S. 618 (1965)	6,12,17
MCCARTHY V. UNITED STATES, 394 U.S. 459 (1969)	17
MCCONNELL V. RHAY, 393 U.S. 2 (1968)	16
MACKEY V. UNITED STATES, 401 U.S. 667 (1971)	17
MAPP V. OHIO, 367 U.S. 643 (1961)	17
MARCHETTI V. UNITED STATES, 390 U.S. 39 (1968)	15
MARTIN V. WYRICK, 568 F.2d 583 (8TH CIR. 1978)	18

	<u>PAGE</u>
MEMPA V. RHAY, 389 U.S. 128 (1967)	16
MICHIGAN V. PAYNE, 412 U.S. 47 (1973)	16
MILLER V. CALIFORNIA, 413 U.S. 15 (1973)	16
MIRANDA V. ARIZONA, 384 U.S. 436 (1966)	17
MISSOURI, KANSAS, AND TEXAS RY. CO. V. MAY, 194 U.S. 267 (1904)	6
NORTH CAROLINA V. PEARCE, 395 U.S. 711 (1969)	16
NORTHERN RY. CO. V. SUNBURST OIL AND REFINING CO., 287 U.S. 358 (1932)	6
O'CALLAHAN V. PARKER, 395 U.S. 258 (1969)	16
RICE V. SIOUX CITY MEMORIAL CEMETERY, 349 U.S. 70 (1955)	19
ROBERTS V. RUSSELL, 392 U.S. 293 (1968)	16
ROBINSON V. NEIL, 409 U.S. 505 (1973)	15
SANSONE V. UNITED STATES, 380 U.S. 343 (1965)	10,14
SCHLOMAN V. MOSELEY, 457 F.2d 1223 (10TH CIR. 1972)	18
SCHNEBLE V. FLORIDA, 405 U.S. 328 (1972)	18
SMITH V. CROUSE, 378 U.S. 584 (1964)	16
SPARF V. UNITED STATES, 156 U.S. 551 (1895)	9,14
STOVALL V. DENNO, 388 U.S. 293 (1967)	5,12,17
TAYLOR V. LOUISIANA, 419 U.S. 522 (1975)	16
TEHAN V. UNITED STATES EX REL. SHOTT, 382 U.S. 406 (1966)	17
UNITED STATES V. ALLEN, 542 F.2d 630 (4TH CIR. 1976)	18
UNITED STATES V. BOARDMAN, 419 F.2d 110 (1st CIR. 1969)	10
UNITED STATES V. BRACKETT, 567 F.2d 501 (D.C. 1977)	18

	<u>PAGE</u>
UNITED STATES V. COCKERHAM, 476 F.2d 542 (D.C. Cir. 1973)	7
UNITED STATES V. DELLINGER, 472 F.2d 340 (7TH Cir. 1972)	10
UNITED STATES V. DORSZYNSKI, 542 F.2d 190 (7TH Cir. 1975)	18
UNITED STATES V. DOUGHERTY, 473 F.2d 1113 (D.C. Cir. 1972)	10
UNITED STATES V. ENOS, 453 F.2d 342 (9TH Cir. 1972)	14
UNITED STATES V. ESCALANTE, 554 F.2d 940 (9TH Cir. 1978)	18
UNITED STATES V. JENKINS, 496 F.2d 57 (2d Cir. 1974)	7
UNITED STATES V. MARKIS, 352 F.2d 860 (2d Cir. 1965)	10,14
UNITED STATES V. MOYLAN, 417 F.2d 1002 (4TH Cir. 1972)	10
UNITED STATES V. PELTIER, 422 U.S. 531 (1975)	13,16
UNITED STATES V. REDA, 563 F.2d 510 (2d Cir. 1977)	18
UNITED STATES V. SIMPSON, 460 F.2d 515 (9TH Cir. 1972)	10
UNITED STATES V. TORBERT, 496 F.2d 154 (9TH Cir. 1974)	7
UNITED STATES V. UNITED STATES COIN AND CURRENCY, 401 U.S. 715 (1971)	15
UNITED STATES V. WADE, 388 U.S. 218 (1967)	17
UNITED STATES EX REL. CANNON V. JOHNSON, 396 F. SUPP. 1362 (E.D. PA. 1975)	11,12
UNITED STATES EX REL. CANNON V. JOHNSON, 536 F.2d 1013 (3d Cir. 1976)	PASSIM
UNITED STATES EX REL. MATTHEWS V. JOHNSON, 503 F.2d 339 (3d Cir. 1974)	PASSIM
UNITED STATES EX REL. VICTOR V. YEAGER, 300 F. SUPP. 802 (D. N.J. 1971)	14

	<u>PAGE</u>
VIRGIN ISLANDS V. CARMONA, 422 F.2d 95 (3d Cir. 1970)	14
WALLER V. FLORIDA, 397 U.S. 387 (1970)	15
WATSON V. UNITED STATES, 484 F.2d 34 (5TH Cir. 1973)	18
WILLIAMS V. UNITED STATES, 401 U.S. 646 (1971)	12
WITHERSPOON V. ILLINOIS, 391 U.S. 510 (1968)	16
<u>STATE CASES</u>	
BROWN V. COMMONWEALTH, 76 PA. 319 (1874)	13
CLARK V. COMMONWEALTH, 123 PA. 555 (1888)	14
COMMONWEALTH V. BANKS, 447 PA. 356 (1971)	14
COMMONWEALTH V. BUCCIERI, 153 PA. 535 (1893)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. CAIN, 471 PA. 140 (1977)	PASSIM
COMMONWEALTH V. CANNON, 453 PA. 389 (1973)	14
COMMONWEALTH V. CORBIN, 432 PA. 551 (1968)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. CROSSMIRE, 156 PA. 304 (1893)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. CURCIO, 216 PA. 380 (1907)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. DAVIS, 449 PA. 468 (1973)	14
COMMONWEALTH V. DEWS, 429 PA. 555 (1968)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. ECKERD, 174 PA. 137 (1896)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. FLAX, 331 PA. 145 (1938)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. FOSTER, 364 PA. 288 (1950)	14
COMMONWEALTH V. HECKATHORN, 429 PA. 534 (1968)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. HOFFMAN, 439 PA. 348 (1970)	3
COMMONWEALTH V. JONES, 450 PA. 442 (1973)	14
COMMONWEALTH V. JONES, 457 PA. 563 (1974)	PASSIM

	<u>PAGE</u>
COMMONWEALTH V. KENNEY, 449 PA. 562 (1972)	14
COMMONWEALTH V. LARUE, 381 PA. 113 (1955)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. LEGRANGE, 227 PA. 368 (1910)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. MACMURRAY, 198 PA. 51 (1901)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. MELESKIE, 278 PA. 37 (1923)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. MORRISON, 266 PA. 223 (1920)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. PAVA, 268 PA. 520 (1920)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. PAVILLARD, 421 PA. 571 (1966)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. ROBINSON, 305 PA. 302 (1931)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. SPARDUTE, 278 PA. 37 (1923)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. SUTTON, 205 PA. 605 (1903)	13
COMMONWEALTH V. YEAGER, 329 PA. 81	13
 <u>STATUTES</u>	
26 U.S.C. § 7302	15
 <u>RULES</u>	
U.S. SUP. CT. RULE 19, 28 U.S.C.	19

COUNTER-STATEMENT OF THE ISSUES PRESENTED

1. WAS PETITIONER CONSTITUTIONALLY ENTITLED TO A JURY INSTRUCTION ON VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER WITHOUT AN EVIDENTIARY BASIS THEREFOR?
2. DID THE COURT BELOW ERR IN REFUSING TO ACCORD PETITIONER THE RETROACTIVE BENEFIT OF A NEW CONSTITUTIONAL RULING WHEN THAT RULING DID NOT AFFECT THE TRUTH-FINDING PROCESS?

COUNTER-STATEMENT OF THE CASE

PETITIONER, GERALD R. CAIN, WAS CONVICTED OF MURDER, BURGLARY, AGGRAVATED ROBBERY, AND CONSPIRACY, ON INDICTMENT NOS. 2179-2182, JUNE SESSION, 1971, AFTER A TRIAL IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY BEFORE THE HONORABLE HOMER L. KREIDER AND A JURY. PETITIONER WAS SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT ON THE MURDER BILL, WITH SENTENCES ON THE OTHER CHARGES RUNNING CONCURRENTLY. AFTER TIMELY APPEAL TO THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME COURT, THAT COURT, BY AN EQUALLY DIVIDED VOTE, AFFIRMED THE JUDGMENT OF SENTENCE. COMMONWEALTH V. CAIN, 369 A.2d 1234 (PA. 1977).

SUBSEQUENTLY, PETITIONER SOUGHT A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA, DOCKETED AS CIVIL ACTION 77-2834. BY ORDER DATED JANUARY 11, 1978, THE PETITION WAS DENIED WITHOUT AN EVIDENTIARY HEARING, BY THE HONORABLE EDWARD N. CAHN, WHO HELD THAT THERE WAS PROBABLE CAUSE FOR APPEAL. PETITIONER APPEALED TO THE THIRD CIRCUIT, WHICH AFFIRMED JUDGE CAHN'S DECISION IN A JUDGMENT ORDER

DATED SEPTEMBER 7, 1978. ON SEPTEMBER 28, 1978, PETITIONER'S REQUEST FOR A REHEARING EN BANC WAS DENIED.

THE EVIDENCE PRESENTED AT PETITIONER'S TRIAL IN STATE COURT REVEALED THAT CHARLES GREEN AND THE DECEDENT, GLENN EDWARDS, CAME TO PHILADELPHIA BY PLANE ON MAY 22, 1971. BOTH MEN WERE COLLEGE STUDENTS AT CENTRAL STATE UNIVERSITY IN WILBERFORCE, OHIO. THE PURPOSE OF THEIR VISIT WAS TO BUY MARIJUANA AND RETURN TO WILBERFORCE. THEY EVENTUALLY CAME IN CONTACT WITH PETITIONER, GERALD CAIN, WHO TOLD THEM THAT HE COULD OBTAIN MARIJUANA FOR THEM. THEREAFTER, PETITIONER, ALONG WITH OTHERS, CONSPIRED TO LURE GLENN EDWARDS TO A VACANT HOUSE -- ON THE PRETENSE OF CONSUMMATING THE SALE -- IN ORDER TO ROB HIM. IN THE COURSE OF THE ROBBERY AND IN THE PRESENCE OF PETITIONER, GLENN EDWARDS WAS FATALLY SHOT BY CALVIN WILLIAMS, ONE OF THE CONSPIRATORS, SOME TIME AFTER MIDNIGHT ON MAY 24, 1971. THEREAFTER, PETITIONER SHARED IN THE PROCEEDS OF THE ROBBERY WITH HIS CONFEDERATES (N.T. 740-800, 888-916, 928-84, 1691-1702).

FOLLOWING THE DISCOVERY OF GLENN EDWARDS' BODY IN THE VACANT HOUSE ON MAY 25, 1971, AN INVESTIGATION LED TO THE ARREST OF PETITIONER ON MAY 26, 1971 (N.T. 1257-59). PETITIONER LATER MADE ORAL ADMISSIONS AND GAVE A FORMAL STATEMENT ADMITTING THAT HE WAS AWARE OF THE PLANNED ROBBERY (N.T. 127-72).

ON JULY 9, 1971, CALVIN WILLIAMS, THE ACTUAL SHOOTER, WAS ARRESTED. WILLIAMS TESTIFIED AT THE TRIAL THAT THERE WAS A CONSPIRACY BETWEEN HIMSELF, PETITIONER, AND OTHERS TO ROB THE DECEDENT, THAT THEY CARRIED OUT THE CONSPIRACY, AND THAT IN THE COURSE

OF THE ROBBERY AND IN THE PRESENCE OF PETITIONER, THE VICTIM WAS SHOT AND KILLED (N.T. 928-84).

REASONS FOR DENYING THE WRIT

PETITIONER PRESENTS NO VIABLE GROUNDS FOR GRANTING HIS PETITION, WHICH SHOULD BE DENIED.

THE COURT BELOW CORRECTLY REFUSED TO RETROACTIVELY APPLY ITS DECISION IN UNITED STATES EX REL. MATTHEWS V. JOHNSON, 503 F.2d 339 (3d CIR. 1974) TO PETITIONER AS THE DECISION WAS INCORRECT.

EVEN IF MATTHEWS WAS CORRECTLY DECIDED, BECAUSE IT DID NOT IMPLICATE THE TRUTH-FINDING PROCESS, THE THIRD CIRCUIT PROPERLY APPLIED THE CASE IN A NON-RETROACTIVE FASHION.

FINALLY, PETITIONER WAS NOT HARMED BY THE COURT'S REFUSAL TO APPLY MATTHEWS TO HIS CASE.

1. PETITIONER WAS NOT ENTITLED, AS A MATTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL LAW, TO A JURY CHARGE ON VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER ABSENT EVIDENCE OF PROVOCATION.

PETITIONER CONTENTS THAT HE WAS ENTITLED TO A JURY INSTRUCTION ON VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER EVEN THOUGH NO EVIDENCE WAS PRESENTED AT TRIAL WHICH EVEN REMOTELY SHOWED PROVOCATION OR PASSION. SEE COMMONWEALTH V. HOFFMAN, 439 Pa. 348, 356-357, 266 A.2d 726, 731 (1970). PETITIONER RAISED THIS POINT BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME COURT IN HIS DIRECT APPEAL, WHICH WAS PENDING WHEN THAT

COURT DECIDED COMMONWEALTH V. JONES, 457 Pa. 563, 319 A.2d 142 (1974), CERT. DENIED, 419 U.S. 1000 (HEREINAFTER: JONES). IN THAT CASE THE COURT ENDED THE LONGSTANDING PRACTICE OF ALLOWING TRIAL COURTS DISCRETION IN THEIR DECISION TO CHARGE ON VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER IN THE ABSENCE OF AN EVIDENTIARY BASIS THEREFOR.¹

SUBSEQUENT TO THE JONES DECISION, THE THIRD CIRCUIT RULED THAT THE CONSTITUTION REQUIRED TRIAL COURTS TO CHARGE ON VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER UPON REQUEST, EVEN WHEN NO EVIDENCE WAS PRESENT WHICH WOULD JUSTIFY SUCH A CHARGE. UNITED STATES EX REL. MATTHEWS V. JOHNSON, 503 F.2d 339 (3d Cir. 1974), CERT. DENIED SUB. NOM. CUYLER V. MATTHEWS, 420 U.S. 952 (HEREINAFTER: MATTHEWS).² ALTHOUGH THREE MEMBERS OF THE COURT VOTED TO APPLY THE MATTHEWS HOLDING TO ALL CASES ON DIRECT APPEAL AT THE TIME OF THE DECISION, THE MAJORITY OF THE COURT DID NOT REACH THE ISSUE. Id. AT 346-347. IN A LATER

¹THREE MEMBERS OF THE JONES COURT RULED THAT THE HOLDING WAS BASED UPON THE COURT'S SUPERVISORY POWERS. THE THREE JUSTICES FURTHER DETERMINED THAT THE RECORD WAS DEVOID OF ANY EVIDENCE WHICH SUGGESTED THAT THE DEFENDANT, JONES, WAS PREJUDICED BY THE ABSENCE OF A VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER CHARGE. THREE MEMBERS OF THE COURT VOTED TO REVERSE JONES' CONVICTION, BASING THEIR DECISION ON CONSTITUTIONAL GROUNDS. AS THE COURT WAS EVENLY DIVIDED, THE JUDGMENT OF SENTENCE WAS AFFIRMED.

INTERESTINGLY, FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE JONES, WHO DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE JONES DECISION, VOTED AGAINST RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION OF THE JONES HOLDING IN PETITIONER'S DIRECT APPEAL BELOW. COMMONWEALTH V. CAIN, 471 Pa. 140, 369 A.2d 1234 (1977).

²MATTHEWS WAS NOT A RULING ON SUBSTANTIVE CRIMINAL LAW. RATHER, IT WAS AN ATTEMPT TO ELIMINATE ARBITRARINESS FROM CRIMINAL TRIALS. CONCEIVABLY, THEREFORE, THE DUE PROCESS REQUIREMENTS EXPRESSED IN MATTHEWS COULD BE SATISFIED IF NO PENNSYLVANIA MURDER DEFENDANT RECEIVED A VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER CHARGE.

DECISION, UNITED STATES EX REL. CANNON V. JOHNSON, 536 F.2d 1013, 1015 (3d Cir. 1976), CERT. DENIED, 429 U.S. 928 (HEREINAFTER: CANNON), THE COURT HELD:

MATTHEWS IS INAPPLICABLE TO PENDING AND/OR FUTURE APPEALS FROM PRE-MATTHEWS MURDER VERDICTS.³

IN DENYING THE INSTANT PETITION, THE THIRD CIRCUIT HAS REAFFIRMED THIS WELL-CONSIDERED DECISION. PETITIONER CONTENDS THAT THIS PROSPECTIVE APPLICATION OF MATTHEWS SOMEHOW VIOLATES HIS FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT RIGHTS. IT IS AXIOMATIC, HOWEVER, THAT A DEFENDANT MUST BE DENIED A FEDERALLY ACCORDED RIGHT BEFORE THE PROSPECTIVE APPLICATION OF THAT RIGHT MAY BE SAID TO VIOLATE DUE

³PETITIONER CONTENDS THAT THIS HOLDING WAS "DICTA" BECAUSE THE DEFENDANT IN CANNON WAS SEEKING COLLATERAL RELIEF. YET, PETITIONER RELIES UPON THE THREE JUDGE RETROACTIVITY "HOLDING" IN MATTHEWS, A CASE IN WHICH THE DEFENDANT WAS ALSO SEEKING COLLATERAL RELIEF.

PETITIONER'S ALLEGATIONS OF PREJUDICE REGARDING THE "DICTA" ARE UNCLEAR. MOREOVER, THEY ARE IRRELEVANT AS THE THIRD CIRCUIT'S DENIAL OF THE INSTANT PETITION AND ADOPTION OF JUDGE CAHN'S ORDER HAS TRANSFORMED THE "DICTA" INTO BINDING PRECEDENT.

MOREOVER, THE CANNON RULING ON DIRECT APPEALS AND RETROACTIVITY WAS NOT "DICTA." ON THE CONTRARY, IT WAS IN ACCORD WITH THIS COURT'S FORMULATION IN STOVALL V. DENNO, 388 U.S. 293, 300-301, 87 S. Ct. 1967, 1972, 18 L.ED.2D 1199 (1967), THAT "NO DISTINCTION IS JUSTIFIED BETWEEN CONVICTIONS NOW FINAL . . . AND CONVICTIONS AT VARIOUS STAGES OF DIRECT REVIEW."

FINALLY, PETITIONER'S CONCERN THAT DEFENDANTS WILL LOSE INCENTIVE TO APPEAL THEIR CONVICTIONS IF NEW CONSTITUTIONAL RULINGS ARE MADE WHOLLY PROSPECTIVE IS ALSO IRRELEVANT AS NO NEW CONSTITUTIONAL RULING WAS ANNOUNCED IN CANNON OR THE INSTANT CASE. THE NEW RULINGS IN JONES AND MATTHEWS, ON THE OTHER HAND, APPLIED TO THE DEFENDANTS IN THOSE CASES.

PROCESS.⁴ INSTANTLY, SINCE THE THIRD CIRCUIT ERRED IN MATTHEWS, PETITIONER COULD NOT HAVE BEEN PREJUDICED BY THE "PROSPECTIVE" APPLICATION OF THAT RULING.⁵

- A. THE MATTHEWS DOCTRINE IS INCORRECT AS IT CONTRAVENES THE MOST BASIC CONCEPTS OF FEDERALISM AND UNDERCUTS THE JUDICIAL FUNCTION.

THE MATTHEWS HOLDING OFFENDS THE MOST BASIC PRINCIPLES OF FEDERALISM AS CLASSICALLY EXPRESSED BY MR. JUSTICE HOLMES IN MIS-SOURI, KANSAS, AND TEXAS RAILWAY CO. V. MAY, 194 U.S. 267, 270, 24 S. Ct. 638, 639 (1904):

GREAT CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES MUST BE ADMINISTERED WITH CAUTION. SOME PLAY MUST BE ALLOWED FOR THE JOINTS OF THE MACHINE, AND IT MUST BE REMEMBERED THAT LEGISLATURES ARE THE ULTIMATE GUARDIANS OF THE LIBERTIES AND WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE IN QUITE AS GREAT A DEGREE AS THE COURTS.

SEE KER V. STATE OF CALIFORNIA, 374 U.S. 23, 64-66, 83 S. Ct. 1623, 1645-1646, 10 L.Ed.2d 726 (1963) (CONCURRING OPINION OF HARLAN, J.).

IN REQUIRING A VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER CHARGE IN EVERY MURDER TRIAL, THE THIRD CIRCUIT HAS PUT ALL PENNSYLVANIA TRIAL COURTS IN A

⁴AS FOOTNOTES 13 AND 14 MAKE CLEAR, THIS COURT HAS RULED ON THE RETROACTIVITY OF FEDERALLY MANDATED HOLDINGS ONLY.

⁵THE QUESTION OF THE RETROACTIVITY OF JONES IS NOT HERE IN ISSUE. MOREOVER, THE RETROACTIVITY OF A "STATE" ACCORDED RIGHT IS NOT A FEDERAL QUESTION. SEE OPINION OF CARDOZO, J., IN GREAT NORTHERN RY. CO. V. SUNBURST OIL AND REFINING CO., 287 U.S. 358, 363, 53 S. Ct. 145, 148 (1932); CITED IN LINKLETTER, SUPRA, 381 U.S. AT 625, 85 S. Ct. AT 1735.

"CONSTITUTIONAL STRAITJACKET." SUCH PRACTICE SHOULD BE CONDEMNED BY THIS COURT.

MOREOVER, THE MATTHEWS COURT HELD THAT A TRIAL COURT MAY NOT, WITHIN THE CONFINES OF DUE PROCESS, EXERCISE DISCRETION ON TRIAL RULINGS UNLESS PROVIDED WITH SPECIFIC RULES FOR THE EXERCISE OF THAT DISCRETION, CITING GIACCIO V. PENNSYLVANIA, 382 U.S. 399, 86 S. Ct. 518, 15 L.Ed.2d 447 (1966). THIS CONCLUSION REPRESENTS AN UNWARRANTED EXTENSION OF THE LIMITED HOLDING IN GIACCIO, WHICH DEALT WITH THE POWER OF A JURY TO ASSESS A FINE FOR ANY UNSPECIFIED MISCONDUCT AND THE ABILITY OF AN ACCUSED TO DEFEND AGAINST UNNAMED AND ENTIRELY UNSPECIFIED CHARGES.

IN ADDITION, THE LOGICAL APPLICATIONS OF THE CONCLUSION WOULD SERIOUSLY IMPAIR THE FUNCTION OF EVERY TRIAL JUDGE. THROUGHOUT A TRIAL, PARTICULARLY A JURY TRIAL, THE COURT IS CALLED UPON TO MAKE COUNTLESS JUDGMENTS UPON ISSUES WHICH ARE VESTED IN HIS "SOUND DISCRETION." A PARTIAL LIST WOULD INCLUDE CONTINUANCE REQUESTS,⁶ SEVERANCE REQUESTS,⁷ VOIR DIRE,⁸ LIMITATION OF CROSS-EXAMINATION, SEQUESTATION OF THE JURY, BAIL, AND SENTENCING. IN ALL OF THESE SITUATIONS NO SPECIFIC GUIDELINES ARE GIVEN TO THE TRIAL COURTS, OTHER THAN PERHAPS SOME MINIMUM STANDARD OF FAIRNESS DUE THE ACCUSED

⁶ALDRIDGE V. UNITED STATES, 283 U.S. 308 (1931); UNITED STATES V. COCKERHAM, 476 F.2d 542, 544 (D.C. Cir. 1973).

⁷UNITED STATES V. JENKINS, 496 F.2d 57, 67-68 (2d Cir. 1974).

⁸UNITED STATES V. TORBERT, 496 F.2d 154 (9th Cir. 1974).

AND SOME SCATTERED CASES HOLDING THAT A DEFENDANT WAS NOT ENTITLED TO SOME PARTICULAR REQUEST WHICH WAS REFUSED HIM. MATTHEWS THROWS THIS JUDICIAL FUNCTION INTO QUESTION. TO A LARGE EXTENT THE ORDERLY CONTROL OF A TRIAL DEPENDS UPON THE EXERCISE OF DISCRETION OF THE TRIAL JUDGE, AND IN PARTICULAR UPON HIS ABILITY TO ACT WITH A WIDE DEGREE OF LATITUDE TO FIT THE RULING TO THE PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CASE. WIDESPREAD APPLICATION OF THE MATTHEWS RULING WOULD PRECLUDE THIS EXERCISE OF DISCRETION AND WOULD BODE OMINOUSLY FOR THE ORDERLY ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

SINCE SOME TRIAL COURTS MAY GIVE THE CHARGE EVEN THOUGH OTHERS DO NOT WHEN THE EVIDENCE DOES NOT SUPPORT IT, THE MATTHEWS COURT REASONS THAT DUE PROCESS REQUIRES THAT ALL DEFENDANTS BE GIVEN THE CHARGE UPON REQUEST. THE DIFFICULTY WITH SUCH RELIEF LIES IN THE ESSENTIAL UNAPPEALABILITY OF RULINGS -- ERRONEOUS OR NOT -- FAVORABLE TO THE DEFENDANT, AND THE PRACTICE OF SOME TRIAL COURTS OF ERRING IN CLOSE CASES IN DEFENDANT'S FAVOR RATHER THAN RISKING REVERSAL ON APPEAL. BECAUSE OF THESE REALITIES, ANY SITUATION CALLING FOR THE EXERCISE OF DISCRETION WILL INEVITABLY RESULT IN SOME INSTANCES OF DEFENDANTS GETTING BENEFITS TO WHICH THEY ARE NOT BY LAW ENTITLED, BUT WHICH CANNOT BE APPEALED BY THE STATE.

IF EVERY TIME SUCH BENEFITS ARE GIVEN IN OCCASIONAL CASES, DUE PROCESS REQUIRES AN EXTENSION OF THE BENEFIT TO ALL DEFENDANTS, THE EVENTUAL RESULT WILL BE TO THROW THE SCALES OF JUSTICE FAR OUT OF BALANCE. AN "ERROR" WHICH UNFAIRLY BENEFITS THE ACCUSED WILL NOT BE CORRECTED, AND ULTIMATELY WILL BE EXTENDED TO ALL OTHERS. UNDER SUCH A SYSTEM, EXCESSES FAVORING THE STATE WOULD BE DISALLOWED,

BUT EXCESSES FAVORING THE DEFENDANT WOULD NOT ONLY GO UNCORRECTED, BUT WOULD BECOME THE STANDARD.

B. THE DECISION OF THE COURT IN MATTHEWS CONFLICTS WITH THE IMPLICIT HOLDINGS OF THIS COURT.

IN MATTHEWS, THE COURT HELD THAT:

WE BELIEVE THAT THE SAFEGUARDS OF DUE PROCESS WILL BE SATISFIED ONLY WHEN ALL DEFENDANTS IN PENNSYLVANIA MURDER TRIALS ARE GIVEN THE SAME OPPORTUNITY, UPON REQUEST DULY MADE, TO HAVE A JURY RETURN A VERDICT OF VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER AS WELL AS FIRST AND SECOND DEGREE MURDER.

Id. AT 346.

THIS RULING CONFLICTS WITH THE IMPLICIT HOLDING IN SPARE V. UNITED STATES, 156 U.S. 51 (1895). THERE, THIS COURT REJECTED A CLAIM ANALOGOUS TO THAT RAISED BY THE DEFENDANT IN MATTHEWS. MR. JUSTICE HARLAN OBSERVED:

[I]N THIS CASE, IT WAS COMPETENT FOR THE COURT TO SAY TO THE JURY THAT, ON ACCOUNT OF THE ABSENCE OF ALL EVIDENCE TENDING TO SHOW THAT THE DEFENDANTS WERE GUILTY OF MANSLAUGHTER, THEY COULD NOT, CONSISTENTLY WITH LAW, RETURN A VERDICT OF GUILTY OF THAT CRIME.⁹

Id. AT 101. THE COURT OF APPEALS ATTEMPTED TO DISTINGUISH SPARE BY STATING:

⁹ADMITTEDLY, THE COURT IN SPARE DID NOT RULE ON THE SPECIFIC ISSUE OF WHETHER DUE PROCESS IS VIOLATED BY GRANTING TRIAL COURTS "UNFETTERED DISCRETION" IN THEIR CHARGING FUNCTION. AS THE LATE JUDGE KALODNER NOTED IN HIS MATTHEWS DISSENT, HOWEVER, THAT ISSUE IS IMPLICITLY REACHED IN SPARE. MATTHEWS AT 352-353. THUS, SPARE IS RELEVANT TO THIS COURT'S ANALYSIS OF THE INSTANT CASE.

THE SUPREME COURT IN SPARE WAS CONFRONTED WITH ISSUES OF STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION ONLY.

MATTHEWS AT 343. THIS COURT IN SPARE, HOWEVER, DESCRIBED THE ISSUE PRESENTED AS BEING ONE OF CONSTITUTIONAL DIMENSION:

BRIEFLY STATED, THE CONTENTION OF THE ACCUSED IS THAT, ALTHOUGH THERE MAY NOT HAVE BEEN ANY EVIDENCE WHATEVER TO SUPPORT A VERDICT OF GUILTY OF AN OFFENSE LESS THAN THE ONE CHARGED, -- AND SUCH WAS THE CASE HERE, -- YET, TO CHARGE THE JURY, AS MATTER OF LAW, THAT THE EVIDENCE IN THE CASE DID NOT AUTHORIZE ANY VERDICT EXCEPT ONE OF GUILTY OR ONE OF NOT GUILTY OF THE PARTICULAR OFFENSE CHARGED, WAS AN INTERFERENCE WITH THEIR LEGITIMATE FUNCTIONS, AND THEREFORE WITH THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT OF THE ACCUSED TO BE TRIED BY A JURY.

SPARE, SUPRA AT 99.

THE PRINCIPLES UNDERLYING ITS HOLDING HAVE NOT BEEN ERODED OVER THE YEARS AND, INDEED, HAVE BEEN REAFFIRMED. BERRA V. UNITED STATES, 351 U.S. 131, 76 S. Ct. 685, 100 L.Ed. 1013 (1956); SAN- SONE V. UNITED STATES, 380 U.S. 343, 349-50, 85 S. Ct. 1004, 13 L.Ed.2d 882 (1965); KEEBLE V. UNITED STATES, 412 U.S. 205, 93 S. Ct. 1993, 36 L.Ed.2d 844 (1973). SEE BELTON V. UNITED STATES, 382 F.2d 150 (D.C. Cir. 1967); COMPARE UNITED STATES V. DOUGHERTY, 473 F.2d 1113 (D.C. Cir. 1972); UNITED STATES V. DELLINGER, 472 F.2d 340 (7TH Cir. 1972); UNITED STATES V. SIMPSON, 460 F.2d 515 (9TH Cir. 1972); UNITED STATES V. BOARDMAN, 419 F.2d 110 (1ST Cir. 1969), CERT. DENIED, 397 U.S. 991 (1970); UNITED STATES V. MOYLAN, 417 F.2d 1002 (4TH Cir. 1972); DRISCOLL V. UNITED STATES, 536 F.2d 324 (1ST Cir. 1966); UNITED STATES V. MARKIS, 352 F.2d 860 (2D Cir. 1965) (OPINION OF FRIENDLY, J.) (ALL REJECTING THE CONTENTION THAT A LESSER

INCLUDED OFFENSE MUST BE CHARGED ABSENT EVIDENCE OF THE LESSER CHARGE).

IN SUM, IT IS PLAIN THAT THE THIRD CIRCUIT'S RULING IN MATTHEWS WAS ERRONEOUS. THUS, THE FACT THAT THE BENEFIT OF THE MATTHEWS RULING WAS NOT EXTENDED RETROACTIVELY TO PETITIONER IS OF NO CONSEQUENCE.

2. THE THIRD CIRCUIT PROPERLY DENIED PETITIONER RETROACTIVE BENEFIT OF A NEW CONSTITUTIONAL HOLDING AS THAT HOLDING DID NOT AFFECT THE TRUTH DETERMINING PROCESS IN PETITIONER'S MURDER TRIAL.

SHOULD THIS COURT DETERMINE THAT MATTHEWS WAS CORRECTLY DECIDED, THE PROSPECTIVE APPLICATION OF THAT CASE WAS, NONETHELESS, PROPER. THUS, PETITIONER SUFFERED NO CONSTITUTIONAL PREJUDICE WHEN MATTHEWS WAS NOT APPLIED TO HIS CASE. IN REJECTING PETITIONER'S CLAIM BELOW, BOTH JUDGE CAHN AND THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME COURT RELIED STRONGLY UPON THE THIRD CIRCUIT'S REASONING IN CANNON AND JUDGE BECKER'S ANALYSIS IN UNITED STATES EX REL. CANNON V. JOHNSON, 396 F. Supp. 1362 (E.D. Pa. 1975) (HEREINAFTER: DIST. CANNON). IN SUM, EACH OF THE APPELLATE COURTS IN WHICH PETITIONER HAS LITIGATED HAS FOLLOWED THE GUIDELINES SET OUT BY THIS COURT IN DANIEL V. LOUISIANA, 419 U.S. 31, 32, 95 S. Ct. 704, 705, 42 L.Ed.2d 790 (1975).¹⁰ SEE

¹⁰ INDEED, JUDGE WEIS CONCURRED IN THE RETROACTIVITY RULING IN CANNON, REVERSING HIS DECISION IN MATTHEWS, BASED ON THIS COURT'S DECISION IN DANIEL V. LOUISIANA, SUPRA. CANNON AT 1017.

STOVALL V. DENNO, SUPRA; LINKLETTER V. WALKER, 381 U.S. 618, 85 S. Ct. 1731, 14 L.Ed.2d 601 (1965). IN DETERMINING WHETHER RETROACTIVE APPLICATION IS TO BE ACCORDED A NEWLY MANDATED CONSTITUTIONAL STANDARD FOR CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, THIS COURT HAS CALLED FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THREE CRITERIA:

- (A) THE PURPOSE TO BE SERVED BY THE NEW STANDARDS, (B) THE EXTENT OF THE RELIANCE BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES ON OLD STANDARDS, AND
- (C) THE EFFECT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE OF A RETROACTIVE APPLICATION OF THE NEW STANDARDS.

CANNON AT 1015, CITING STOVALL, SUPRA AT PAGE 297, 87 S. Ct. AT 1969).¹¹ THE COURTS WHICH HAVE CONSIDERED THE ISSUE AGREE THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE MATTHEWS RULE WAS THE ELIMINATION OF POSSIBLE ARBITRARINESS FROM THE JUDICIAL PROCESS, AND THAT THE RULE IN NO WAY IMPLICATED THE TRUTH FINDING PROCESS. CANNON AT 1016; MATTHEWS AT 348; DIST. CANNON AT 1367; COMMONWEALTH V. CAIN, SUPRA AT 1245; COMMONWEALTH V. JONES, SUPRA AT 149. IT IS WELL-SETTLED THAT THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED RELIANCE AND BURDEN FACTORS BECOME CONTROLLING ONCE IT IS DETERMINED THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE NEW RULE DOES NOT IMPLICATE THE TRUTH-FINDING PROCESS. WILLIAMS V. UNITED STATES, 401 U.S. 646, 653, 91 S. Ct. 1148, 1152, 28 L.Ed.2d 388 (1971); DESIST V. UNITED STATES, 394 U.S. 244, 249, 89 S. Ct. 1030, 1033,

¹¹ THIS COURT HAS RECENTLY REAFFIRMED THIS RETROACTIVITY STANDARD. HANKERSON V. NORTH CAROLINA, 432 U.S. 233, 97 S. Ct. 2339, 2345, 53 L.Ed.2d 306, (1977).

22 L.Ed.2d 248 (1969); CANNON AT 1016; SEE ALSO BROWN V. UNITED STATES, 422 U.S. 916, 916, 95 S. Ct. 2569, 2572, 45 L.Ed.2d 641 (1975); UNITED STATES V. PELTIER, 422 U.S. 531, 535, 95 S. Ct. 2313, 2316, 45 L.Ed.2d 374 (1975). AN EXAMINATION OF THE LAW PRIOR TO COMMONWEALTH V. JONES, SUPRA, MAKES PLAIN THAT THE COURTS OF PENNSYLVANIA RELIED HEAVILY ON THE "OLD STANDARDS," WHICH WERE REPEATEDLY REAFFIRMED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME COURT: SEE, BROWN V. COMMONWEALTH, 76 Pa. 319, 339 (1874); CLARK V. COMMONWEALTH, 123 Pa. 555, 575, 16 A. 795, 799 (1888); COMMONWEALTH V. RUCCIERI, 153 Pa. 535, 26 A. 228 (1893); COMMONWEALTH V. CROSSMIRE, 156 Pa. 304, 27 A. 40 (1893); COMMONWEALTH V. ECKERD, 174 Pa. 137, 34 A. 305 (1896); COMMONWEALTH V. MACMURRAY, 198 Pa. 51, 47 A. 952 (1901); COMMONWEALTH V. SUTTON, 205 Pa. 605, 55 A. 781 (1903); COMMONWEALTH V. CURCIO, 216 Pa. 380, 65 A. 792 (1907); COMMONWEALTH V. LEGRANGE, 227 Pa. 368, 76 A. 63 (1910); COMMONWEALTH V. MORRISON, 266 Pa. 223, 109 A. 878 (1920); COMMONWEALTH V. PAVA, 268 Pa. 520, 112 A. 103 (1920); COMMONWEALTH V. SPARDUTE, 278 Pa. 37, 122 A. 161 (1923); COMMONWEALTH V. MELESKIE, 278 Pa. 37, 122 A.2d 161 (1923); COMMONWEALTH V. ROBINSON, 305 Pa. 302, 157 A. 689 (1931); COMMONWEALTH V. YEAGER, 329 Pa. 81, 196 A. 827 (1938); COMMONWEALTH V. FLAX, 331 Pa. 145, 200 A. 632 (1938); COMMONWEALTH V. LARUE, 381 Pa. 113, 112 A.2d 362 (1955); COMMONWEALTH V. FOSTER, 364 Pa. 288, 72 A.2d 279 (1950); COMMONWEALTH V. PAVILLARD, 421 Pa. 571, 220 A.2d 807 (1966); COMMONWEALTH V. DEWS, 429 Pa. 555, 239 A.2d 392 (1968); COMMONWEALTH V. CORBIN, 432 Pa. 551, 247 A.2d 584 (1968); COMMONWEALTH V. HECKATHORN, 429 Pa. 534, 241 A.2d 97 (1968);

COMMONWEALTH V. BANKS, 447 Pa. 356, 285 A.2d 112 (1971); COMMONWEALTH V. KENNEY, 449 Pa. 562, 297 A.2d 794 (1972); COMMONWEALTH V. DAVIS, 449 Pa. 468, 297 A.2d 817 (1972), CERT. DENIED, 414 U.S. 836 (1973); COMMONWEALTH V. JONES, 450 Pa. 442, 299 A.2d 288 (1973); COMMONWEALTH V. CANNON, 453 Pa. 389, 309 A.2d 384 (1973). In addition, the state courts relied upon numerous federal precedents upholding an analogous practice, from which MATTHEWS represented a break. See SPARE V. UNITED STATES, SUPRA, reaffirmed in BERRA V. UNITED STATES, SUPRA; SANSONE V. UNITED STATES, SUPRA; and KEEBLE V. UNITED STATES, SUPRA. See also BELTON V. UNITED STATES, 382 F.2d 150 (D.C. Cir. 1967); UNITED STATES V. MARKIS, 352 F.2d 860 (2d Cir. 1965); DRISCOLL V. UNITED STATES, 356 F.2d 324 (1st Cir. 1966); UNITED STATES V. ENOS, 453 F.2d 342 (9th Cir. 1972); UNITED STATES EX REL. VICTOR V. YEAGER, 300 F. Supp. 802 (D.N.J. 1971); VIRGIN ISLANDS V. CARMONA, 422 F.2d 95 (3d Cir. 1970).

As Judge Becker's opinion in DIST. CANNON makes abundantly clear, retroactive application of MATTHEWS would have disastrous effects on the administration of justice in Pennsylvania. Id. at 1365-71).¹² Contrary to petitioner's assertions, this would not be a mere "administration burden," which the Pennsylvania Supreme Court could handle with "per curiam opinions." Rather, retrospective application of MATTHEWS would result in wholesale reversal of

¹² Mr. Chief Justice (then Justice) Eagen wrote: "A horrendous burden would be placed on the administration of justice were we to apply MATTHEWS to cases on direct review. . . ." COMMONWEALTH V. CAIN, SUPRA at 1246; see CANNON at 1016.

hundreds of murder convictions which were properly obtained in reliance upon extremely well-settled precedent. In light of this appalling burden, the reliance on the old standards by the state courts, and the purpose of the MATTHEWS rule, the Third Circuit's decision to apply MATTHEWS prospectively is unassailable.

Petitioner expresses an obscure fear that the Third Circuit has created a new standard which would result in wholly prospective or retroactive applications of new constitutional rulings. This is little more than petitioner's thinly veiled belief that this Court should now reject its three prong retroactivity test. Such a contention is obviously unacceptable. The test, which was followed by the Third Circuit below and in CANNON, has been repeatedly applied by this Court in cases involving rulings which affect the truth-determining process¹³ and those which do

¹³ HANKERSON V. NORTH CAROLINA, SUPRA (prosecution must disprove self-defense to meet its burden in a murder prosecution; holding is fully retroactive); ROBINSON V. NEIL, 409 U.S. 505, 93 S. Ct. 876, 36 L. Ed. 2d 736 (1973) (double jeopardy holding in WALLER V. FLORIDA, 397 U.S. 387, 90 S. Ct. 1184, 25 L. Ed. 435 (1970) applied retroactively); IVAN V. CITY OF NEW YORK, 407 U.S. 203, 92 S. Ct. 1951, 32 L. Ed. 2d 659 (1972) (in re Winship, 397 U.S. 358, 90 S. Ct. 1068, 25 L. Ed. 2d 368 (1970) applied retroactively); UNITED STATES V. U.S. COIN AND CURRENCY, 401 U.S. 715, 91 S. Ct. 1041, 28 L. Ed. 2d 434 (1971) (MARCHETTI V. UNITED STATES, 390 U.S. 39, 88 S. Ct. 697, 19 L. Ed. 2d 889 (1968) and GROSSO V. UNITED STATES, 390 U.S. 62, 88 S. Ct. 709, 19 L. Ed. 2d 906 (1968), applied retroactively to forfeiture proceedings under 26 U.S.C. § 7302); BERGER V. CALIFORNIA, 383 U.S. 314, 89 S. Ct. 540, 21 L. Ed. 2d 508 (1968) (BARBER V. PAGE, 390 U.S. 719, 88 S. Ct. 1318, 20 L. Ed. 2d 255 (1968), right to confrontation holding applied retroactively); APSENIAULT V. MASSACHUSETTS, 393 U.S. 5, 89 S. Ct. 35, 21 L. Ed. 2d 193 (1963) insuring

(Footnote 13 continued on next page.)

NOT, ¹⁴ WITH VARYING DEGREES OF RETROACTIVITY ACCORDED TO EACH. PETITIONER HAS PRESENTED NO NEW OR VIABLE REASONS TO REJECT THIS THOUGHTFUL AND WELL-SETTLED STANDARD.

(FOOTNOTE 13 CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE.)

RIGHT TO COUNSEL AT PRELIMINARY HEARING WHEN A PLEA IS ENTERED, IS MADE FULLY RETROACTIVE); McCONNELL V. RHAY, 393 U.S. 2, 89 S. Ct. 32, 2 L. Ed. 2d 2 (1968) (HOLDING MEMPA V. RHAY, 389 U.S. 128, 88 S. Ct. 254, 19 L. Ed. 2d 336 (1967)), INSURING RIGHT TO COUNSEL AT SENTENCING, FULLY RETROACTIVE); ROBERTS V. RUSSELL, 392 U.S. 293, 88 S. Ct. 1921, 20 L. Ed. 2d 1100 (1968) (HOLDING BRUTON V. UNITED STATES, 391 U.S. 123, 88 S. Ct. 1620, 20 L. Ed. 2d 476 (1968) FULLY RETROACTIVE); WITHERSPOON V. ILLINOIS, 391 U.S. 510, 88 S. Ct. 1770, 20 L. Ed. 2d 776 (1968) (VOIR DIRE OF POTENTIAL JURORS CONCERNING THE DEATH PENALTY HOLDING FULLY RETROACTIVE); SMITH V. CROUSE, 378 U.S. 584, 84 S. Ct. 1919, 12 L. Ed. 2d 1039 (1964) (HOLDING DOUGLAS V. CALIFORNIA, 372 U.S. 353, 83 S. Ct. 814, 9 L. Ed. 2d 811 (1963) FULLY RETROACTIVE); DOUGHTY V. MAXWELL, 376 U.S. 202, 84 S. Ct. 702, 11 L. Ed. 2d 650 (1964) (HOLDING GIDEON V. WAINWRIGHT, 372 U.S. 335, 83 S. Ct. 792, 9 L. Ed. 2d 763 (1963) FULLY RETROACTIVE).

¹⁴ UNITED STATES V. PELTIER, SUPRA (ALMEIDA-SANCHEZ V. UNITED STATES, 413 U.S. 265, 93 S. Ct. 2535, 37 L. Ed. 2d 596 (1973) IS HELD WHOLLY PROSPECTIVE); DANIEL V. LOUISIANA, SUPRA (JURY SELECTION HOLDING IN TAYLOR V. LOUISIANA, 419 U.S. 522, 95 S. Ct. 692, 42 L. Ed. 2d 690 (1975) HELD NOT APPLICABLE TO CONVICTIONS OBTAINED BY JURIES EMANELLED PRIOR TO THE DATE OF DECISION IN TAYLOR); HAMLING V. UNITED STATES, 418 U.S. 87, 94 S. Ct. 2887, 41 L. Ed. 2d 590 (1974) (DEFINITION OF OBSCENITY IN MILLER V. CALIFORNIA, 413 U.S. 15, 93 S. Ct. 2607, 37 L. Ed. 2d 419 (1973) APPLIED TO SOME CASES ON DIRECT APPEAL AT THE TIME OF MILLER); GOSA V. MAYDEN, 413 U.S. 665, 93 S. Ct. 2926, 37 L. Ed. 2d 873 (1973) (HOLDING OF O'CALAHAN V. PARKER, 395 U.S. 258, 89 S. Ct. 1683, 23 L. Ed. 2d 291 (1969), REGARDING CIVILIAN CRIMINAL PROCEDURES FOR SERVICEMEN IS PROSPECTIVE); MICHIGAN V. PAYNE, 412 U.S. 47, 93 S. Ct. 1966, 36 L. Ed. 2d 736 (1973) (RESENTENCING STANDARDS IN NORTH CAROLINA V. PEARCE, 395 U.S. 711, 89 S. Ct. 2072, 23 L. Ed. 2d 656 (1969) IS APPLICABLE TO SENTENCES IMPOSED AFTER THE PEARCE RULING); ADAMS V. ILLINOIS, 405 U.S. 278, 92 S. Ct. 916, 31 L. Ed. 2d 202 (1972) (RIGHT TO COUNSEL AT PRELIMINARY HEARING AS ARTICULATED IN COLEMAN V. ALABAMA, 399 U.S. 1, 90 S. Ct. 1999, 26 L. Ed. 2d 387 (1970) RETROACTIVE ONLY TO PRELIMINARY HEARINGS HELD AFTER COLEMAN);

(FOOTNOTE 14 CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.)

NOR HAS PETITIONER SHOWN THAT THE DECISION BELOW IS IN CONFLICT WITH THE DECISION OF ANY OTHER CIRCUIT COURT. ON THE CONTRARY, THE

(FOOTNOTE 14 CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE.)

MACKEY V. UNITED STATES, 401 U.S. 667, 91 S. Ct. 1160, 28 L. Ed. 2d 404 (1971) (FIFTH AMENDMENT DEFENSE TO TAX CHARGES, AS ARTICULATED IN MARCHETTI V. UNITED STATES, 390 U.S. 59, 88 S. Ct. 697, 19 L. Ed. 2d 889 APPLIED PROSPECTIVELY TO TRIALS OCCURRING AFTER DATE OF MARCHETTI); WILLIAMS V. UNITED STATES, 401 U.S. 646, 91 S. Ct. 1148, 28 L. Ed. 2d 388 (1971) (HOLDING OF CHIMEL V. CALIFORNIA, 395 U.S. 752, 89 S. Ct. 2034, 23 L. Ed. 2d 685 (1969) REGARD SCOPE OF SEARCH INCIDENT TO AN ARREST IS APPLIED PROSPECTIVELY ONLY TO SEARCHES OCCURRING OF THE DATE OF CHIMEL); HALLIDAY V. UNITED STATES, 394 U.S. 831, 89 S. Ct. 1498, 23 L. Ed. 2d 16 (1969) (REQUIREMENT OF ON THE RECORD GUILTY PLEA COLLOQUY AS ARTICULATED IN MCCARTHY V. UNITED STATES, 394 U.S. 459, 89 S. Ct. 1166, 22 L. Ed. 2d 418 (1969) APPLIED ONLY TO THOSE PLEAS ENTERED INTO AFTER DATE OF MCCARTHY); DESIST V. UNITED STATES, 394 U.S. 244, 89 S. Ct. 1030, 22 L. Ed. 2d 248 (1969) (KATZ V. UNITED STATES, 389 U.S. 347, 88 S. Ct. 507, 19 L. Ed. 2d 576 (1967), HOLDING THAT ELECTRONIC EAVESDROPPING CONSTITUTES A "SEARCH," APPLIED ONLY TO SEARCHES AFTER DATE OF DECISION); FULLER V. ALASKA, 393 U.S. 80, 89 S. Ct. 61, 21 L. Ed. 2d 212 (1968) (HOLDING IN LEE V. FLORIDA, 392 U.S. 378, 88 S. Ct. 2096, 20 L. Ed. 2d 1166 (1968) REGARDING INADMISSIBILITY IN STATE COURTS OF EVIDENCE OBTAINED THROUGH ILLEGAL WIRETAPS APPLIED TO TRIAL OCCURRING AFTER THE DECISION IN LEE); DESTEFANO V. WOODS, 392 U.S. 631, 88 S. Ct. 2093, 20 L. Ed. 2d 1308 (1968) (DUNCAN V. LOUISIANA, 391 U.S. 145, 88 S. Ct. 1444, 20 L. Ed. 2d 491 (1968), INSURING A RIGHT TO A JURY TRIAL, APPLIED TO TRIALS OCCURRING AFTER THE DATE OF DUNCAN); STOVALL V. DENNO, SUPRA (APPLIED UNITED STATES V. WADE, 388 U.S. 218, 87 S. Ct. 1926, 18 L. Ed. 2d 1149 (1967) -- RIGHT TO COUNSEL AT LINEUPS -- TO LINEUPS OCCURRING AFTER THE DATE OF DECISION IN WADE); JOHNSON V. NEW JERSEY, 384 U.S. 719, 86 S. Ct. 1772, 16 L. Ed. 2d 882 (1966) (HOLDING MIRANDA V. ARIZONA, 384 U.S. 436, 86 S. Ct. 1602, 16 L. Ed. 2d 694 (1966) AND ESCOBEDO V. ILLINOIS, 378 U.S. 478, 84 S. Ct. 1758, 12 L. Ed. 2d 977 (1964) APPLICABLE TO TRIALS OCCURRING ON OR AFTER THE DATES OF DECISION OF MIRANDA AND ESCOBEDO); LEHAN V. UNITED STATES EX REL. SHOTT, 382 U.S. 406, 86 S. Ct. 459, 15 L. Ed. 2d 453 (1966) (HOLDING NON-RETROACTIVE GRIFFIN V. CALIFORNIA, 380 U.S. 609, 85 S. Ct. 1229, 14 L. Ed. 2d 106 (1965), WHICH PROHIBITED ADVERSE COMMENT ON A DEFENDANT'S FAILURE TO TESTIFY AT TRIAL); LINKLETTER V. WALKER, SUPRA (MAPP V. OHIO, 367 U.S. 643, 81 S. Ct. 1684, 6 L. Ed. 2d 1081 (1961) IS APPLICABLE ONLY TO CASES ON DIRECT APPEAL AT THE TIME OF THE MAPP DECISION).

RETROACTIVITY STANDARD USED BELOW HAS BEEN FOLLOWED BY ALL THE CIRCUITS, WITH NO CONFLICT AMONG THEM ON THIS POINT.¹⁵

IN SUM, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE DECISION OF THE COURT BELOW WAS IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THIS COURT'S WELL-SETTLED RETROACTIVITY GUIDELINES AND IN ACCORD WITH THE STANDARD USED BY ALL THE CIRCUITS.¹⁶

¹⁵ UNITED STATES V. BRACKETT, 567 F.2d 501 (D.C. 1977), CERT. DENIED, 98 S. Ct. 1505; JACKSON V. JUSTICES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS, 549 F.2d 215 (1st Cir. 1977), CERT. DENIED, 430 U.S. 975; UNITED STATES V. REDA, 563 F.2d 510 (2d Cir. 1977), CERT. DENIED, 98 S. Ct. 1517; REHEARING DENIED 98 S. Ct. 2275; UNITED STATES V. ALLEN, 542 F.2d 630 (4th Cir. 1976), CERT. DENIED, 430 U.S. 908; WATSON V. UNITED STATES, 484 F.2d 34 (5th Cir. 1973), CERT. DENIED, 416 U.S. 940; HOLT V. BLACK, 550 F.2d 1061 (6th Cir. 1977), CERT. DENIED, 97 S. Ct. 2960; UNITED STATES V. DORSZYSKI, 524 F.2d 190 (7th Cir. 1975), CERT. DENIED, 424 U.S. 977; MARTIN V. WYRICK, 568 F.2d 583 (8th Cir. 1978), CERT. DENIED, 98 S. Ct. 1623; UNITED STATES V. ESCALANTE, 554 F.2d 940 (9th Cir. 1978), CERT. DENIED, 43 U.S. 862; SCHLOMAN V. MOSELEY, 457 F.2d 1223 (10th Cir. 1972), CERT. DENIED, 413 U.S. 919.

¹⁶ IF THIS COURT DETERMINES THAT THE FAILURE TO CHARGE ON VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER VIOLATED PETITIONER'S DUE PROCESS RIGHTS, SUCH ERROR WAS CERTAINLY HARMLESS BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT. THE JURY BELOW RETURNED A VERDICT OF FIRST DEGREE MURDER AGAINST PETITIONER. SURELY, IF THE JURY WAS INCLINED TO SHOW ANY MERCY FOR PETITIONER, IT WOULD HAVE FOUND PETITIONER GUILTY ONLY OF SECOND DEGREE MURDER. THIS WAS THE APPROACH TAKEN BY THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME COURT IN JONES, CITING SCHNEBLE V. FLORIDA, 405 U.S. 328, 92 S. Ct. 1056, 31 L.Ed.2d 340 (1972), THE MATTHEWS COURT REJECTED THE HARMLESS ERROR ARGUMENT. Id. AT 346. YET, IN SCHNEBLE, THE COURT WROTE: "JUDICIOUS APPLICATION OF THE HARMLESS ERROR RULE DOES NOT REQUIRE THAT WE INDULGE ASSUMPTIONS OF IRRATIONAL JURY BEHAVIOR." 405 U.S. AT 431-432; 92 S. Ct. AT 1059. IN LIGHT OF THE OVERWHELMING EVIDENCE OF FIRST DEGREE MURDER PRESENTED AT TRIAL BELOW, AND THE FAILURE OF THE JURY TO RETURN A VERDICT OF SECOND DEGREE MURDER, AN INSTRUCTION ON VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER COULD NOT, RATIONALLY, HAVE AFFECTED THE JURY. THUS, THE RECORD MAKES PLAIN THAT PETITIONER WAS NOT PREJUDICED BY THE OMITTED CHARGE. CHAPMAN V. CALIFORNIA, 386 U.S. 18, 87 S. Ct. 824, 17 L.Ed. 705 (1967).

THUS, PETITIONER HAS PRESENTED NO "SPECIAL OR IMPORTANT REASONS" FOR GRANTING HIS PETITION, WHICH SHOULD BE DENIED. U.S. SUP. CT. RULE 19, 28 U.S.C.A.; RICE V. SIOUX CITY MEMORIAL CEMETERY, 349 U.S. 70, 75 S. Ct. 614, 99 L.Ed. 897 (1955).

CONCLUSION

FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS, RESPONDENTS RESPECTFULLY REQUEST
THAT THE COURT NOT ISSUE A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO REVIEW THE DECISION BELOW.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

STEVEN H. GOLDBLATT
DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOR LAW

PAUL S. DIAMOND
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

MICHAEL F. HENRY
CHIEF, MOTIONS DIVISION

EDWARD G. RENDELL
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

2400 CENTRE SQUARE WEST
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19102

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

GERALD R. CAIN,
PETITIONER

V.

JOSEPH MAZURKIEWICZ

AND

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF
PENNSYLVANIA

AND

THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF
PHILADELPHIA COUNTY,

RESPONDENTS

TERM, 1978

NO. 78-907

CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE

I, STEVEN H. GOLDBLATT, ESQUIRE, COUNSEL FOR RESPONDENTS, HEREBY
CERTIFY THAT I HAVE CAUSED A COPY OF THIS BRIEF IN OPPOSITION TO
PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT TO BE SERVED UPON MORRIS BARAN, ESQUIRE, ATTORNEY
FOR PETITIONER, BY DEPOSITING FIVE COPIES IN THE UNITED STATES MAIL,
FIRST CLASS, POSTAGE PREPAID, ADDRESSED TO MORRIS PAUL BARAN, ESQUIRE,
600 PENN SQUARE BUILDING, 1317 FILBERT STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA,
19107, ON MARCH 1, 1979.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED :
BEFORE ME THIS DAY :
OF MARCH A.D. 1979 :

NOTARY PUBLIC

STEVEN H. GOLDBLATT